

CONCERNING THE GENUS *LEPTURGA* STAL
(HEMIPTERA; TINGITIDAE)

by

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The genus *Lepturga* Stal (Enum. Hemip., III, 1873, pp. 119 & 124), was erected for *L. nigratarsis* Stal from Cape York, Australia. Since then, no comments on the genus or additional forms have been described.

The present paper transfers two Australian species, of lace bugs, wrongly described as members of the genus *Lep-tobyrsa* Stal, to *Lepturga* and includes the description of a new species from New Guinea. The type of the latter is in the collection of the author.

Lepturga nigratarsis Stal.

Lepturga nigratarsis Stal, Enum., Hemip., III, 1873, p. 124; Lethierry & Severin, Cat. Gen. Hemip., Heterop., 1896, p. 13.

Very large, very broad, subquadrate, whitish testaceous, some of the nervelets partly embrowned, the marginal nervures of paranota, carinae, hood and outer margins of elytra beset with numerous, moderately long, sharp, testaceous spines; nervures of lacy structures armed with scattered, erect spines. Wings greatly reduced, whitish. Pronotum moderately convex, deeply pitted, tricarinate; median carinae long, more strongly raised posteriorly, mostly biseri-ate; lateral carina very long, foliaceous, uniseriate, less elevated than median, slightly divaricating posteriorly. Para-nota very large and broad, ear-shaped, extending forward in front of head.

Hood strongly compressed laterally, extending slightly forward over base of head. Head brown, the anterior pair of spines very long, slender, nearly reaching apex of second antennal segment, the median and hind pair much shorter and slenderer. Rostrum extending beyond middle of mesos-ternum, the laminae strongly foliaceous and widely separated on meso— and metasternum nearly contiguous behind. Bucculae broad, testaceous, closed in front. Antennae moderately long, slender, clothed with numerous long, bristly hairs, testaceous, the apical half of terminal segment black; segment I stronger and three times as long as II, the latter short; III long, slightly bowed.

Elytra subquadrate, sharply widened near base, the tumid elevation large, somewhat impressed within; costal area very broad, several areolae deep but not arranged in regular rows, with three or four oblique, slightly enlarged, impressed nervures.

The above notes were taken from a female specimen, labeled. "Peak-Downs" from Australia and determined by Carlos Stal. This species is the haplotype of the genus *Lepturga* Stal

Lepturga major (Hacker)

Leptobyrsa major, Hacker, Mem. Queens. Mus., IX, 1929, p. 332, Pl. XXXV, fig. 14.

The much longer and shortly pilose antennae, larger and strongly inflated hood, smaller paranota, higher median carina and larger tumid elevations of elytra are distinguishing characters. Numerous specimens from Queensland, Austr. are at hand. DRAKE AND POOR, PROC. BIOL. SOC. WASH., 50, 1927, p. 163. pointed out that the two Australian species of *Leptobyrsa* described by Hacker should be transferred to another genus.

Lepturga magnifica (Hacker)

Leptobyrsa magnifica Hacker, Mem. Queens. Mus., IX, 1929, p. 331, Pl., XXXV, fig. 13.

This species is closely allied to *L. major* (Hacker) but easily separated from it by its smaller size. The carinae are shorter and the lateral ones are more divaricating posteriorly. Seven paratypes and numerous other specimens from Queensland, Austr., are in my collection. This species and *major* are figured by Hacker.

Lepturga dignata, sp. nov.

Large, broad, subquadrate. Pronotum brown, deeply pitted, moderately convex, tricarinate; median carina long, foliaceous, slightly more elevated posteriorly, the areolae wide and mostly triangular; lateral carinae foliaceous, slightly concave within in front, uniseriate, the areolae in front nearly as large as those of median but becoming distinctly smaller posteriorly. Hood very small, compressed laterally, much smaller than in *nigritarsis* Stal Head brown, with

five, very long, slender spines, the anterior pair longest. Antennae with the last two segments wanting. Rostrum channel wide, widening posteriorly, wider and cordate on metasternum, the laminae foliaceous and not meeting behind; rostrum dark brown, extending to middle of metasternum. Paranota very large, broad, strongly expanded antero-laterally, broadly rounded laterally, testaceous, the outer row of areolae and part of second clouded with dark fuscous brown.

Elytra very broad, without tumid elevation, testaceous, a row of areolae along the lateral margin and about three deep along the hind margin clouded with dark fuscous-brown; discoidal area large, very long, extending about to the apical third, narrowed at base and apex, widest a little beyond middle, the outer boundary strongly sinuate; subcostal area narrow, uniseriate; areolae of costal area large, several deep, not arranged in regular rows. Margins of paranota, carinae, hood and lateral and hind margin of elytra closely beset with rather stout, dark spines; nervelets with few scaretted, erect spines. Legs long, slender, testaceous. Bucculae aerolate, testaceous, contiguous in front.

Length, 4.50 mm., width, 3.60 mm.

Holotype, female, Pedang, Pedang, New Guinea.

This species is most closely related to *L. nigritarsis* but readily distinguishable by color marking, size, smaller hood, and absence of tumid elevations on elytra. It is very different from the two Queensland species described by Hacker.
