

**Note on *Megaploiaria* McAtee & Malloch,
1926, with the description of a new species
from Australia (*Emesinae*, Reduv., Hem.).**

By

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The genus *Ploiaria* Scopoli as understood actually contains a very large number of species. Any characters leading to a natural subdivision of this group should be used for this purpose, provided they be not only of specific but clearly of generic value. McAtee & Malloch (Philippine and Malayan Ploiariinae (Hemiptera, Reduviidae), in: Philipp. J. Sc., Manila, 1926, **30**(1): 117—152, 4 pls.) created the subgenus *Ploiaria* (*Megaploiaria*), with the only species *fusca* n. sp., from the Philippine Islands. We have now before us a new species of *Emesinae* from Australia which agrees with *fusca* in its essential characters, i. e. the shape of the transverse impression of the head and the posterior margin of the prosternum; the purely specific characters, as color pattern, shape of head, details of wing venation etc. differ sufficiently to prove that ours is a distinct species. Considering these facts we propose to regard *Megaploiaria* as an independent genus, nearly allied to, but sufficiently different from, *Ploiaria* Scopoli.

We wish to express our thanks to Dr. S. L. Tuxen, of the Universitetets Zoologiske Museum of Copenhagen, who submitted the specimens studied in the present paper. — The new species is dedicated to the memory of J. C. Fabricius, the extraordinary Danish entomologist, who has done such a great deal to further our knowledge of the Hemiptera.

Megaploiaria McAtee & Malloch, 1926*Ploiaria* (*Megaploiaria*) McAtee & Malloch, 1926.

Head elongate; rostrum slender; transverse impression between eyes with its extremities about middle of eyes but curved backward so that its median part lies nearly as far posteriorly as any part of the eyes. Antero-ocular region of head longer than postocular region.

Pronotum short, not extending over mesonotum. Scutellum and postscutellum without spines. Apparent posterior margin of prosternum entire, rounded posteriorly. Fore femur ventrally with a great number of slender spines arranged in two series, the postero-ventral series beginning at base of joint. Fore tibia somewhat longer than half the length of femur; tarsus half as long as tibia. Tibia ventrally with a series of stout deflexed spines; tarsus three-jointed, glossy, bare above, ventrally with a series of short deflexed spines; two unequal simple claws present. Median and posterior femora and tibiae with simple bristles only; tarsi three-jointed, short; claws simple.

Forewings with one large discal cell only. Membrane of hind wing with a transverse thickening.

Genotype: *Ploiaria* (*Megaploiaria*) *fusca* McAtee & Malloch, 1926.

Megaploiaria fabricii n. sp.

Female. Length of body (to apex of abdomen) 13.5 mm; maximum width of pronotum 1.3, of abdomen 1.8 mm.

Megaploiaria fabricii n. sp., female. Wygodzinsky del.

Fig. 1. Head and thorax, seen from above, partly with color pattern.

Fig. 2. Head and thorax, seen from below.

Fig. 3. Head and thorax, lateral aspect.

Fig. 4. Anterior leg.

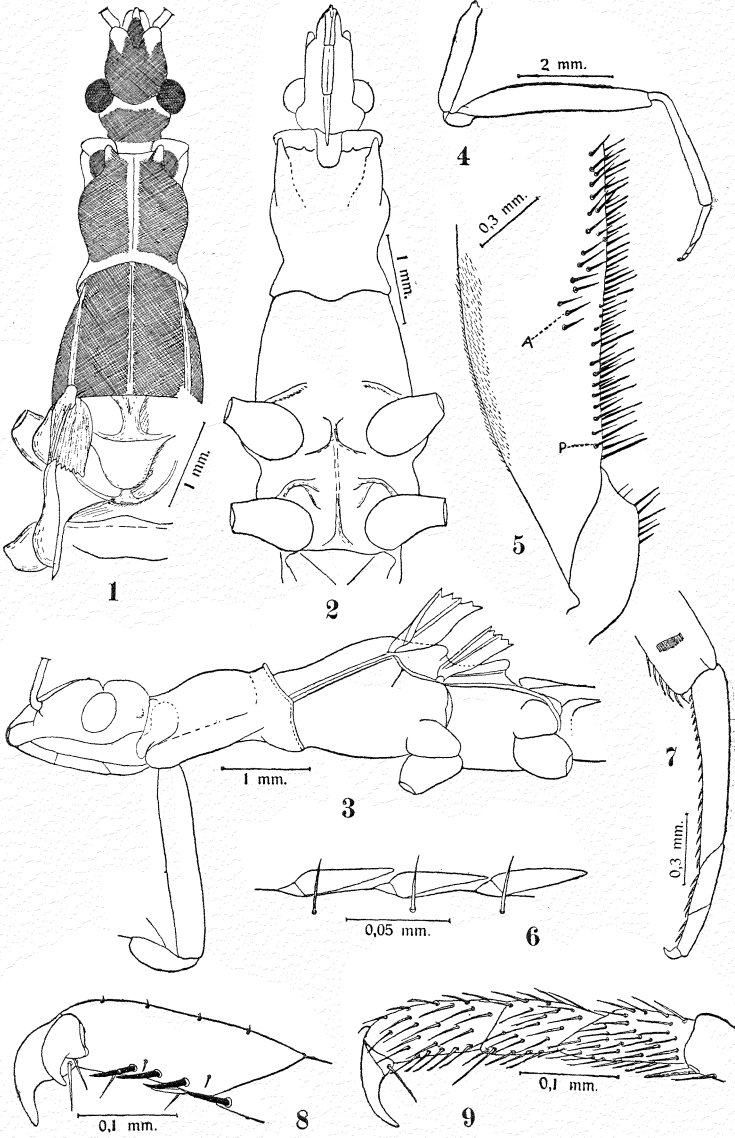
Fig. 5. Trochanter and base of femur of anterior leg, with antero-ventral (A) and postero-ventral (P) series.

Fig. 6. Ventral spines of anterior tibia.

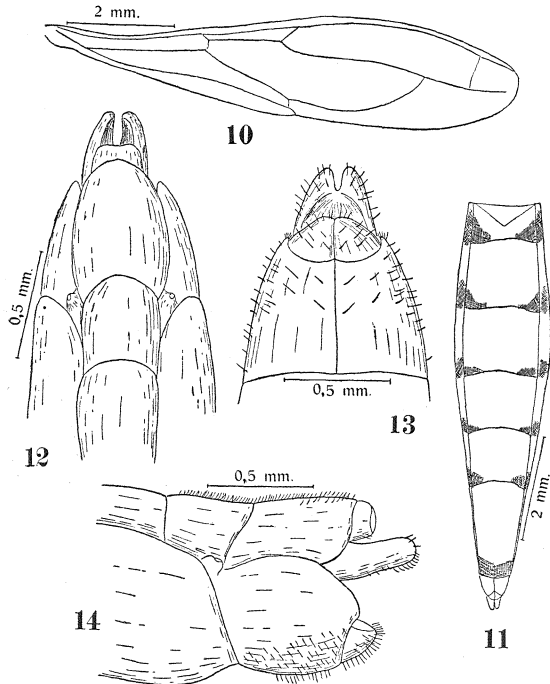
Fig. 7. Apex of anterior tibia and tarsus.

Fig. 8. Anterior praetarsus and claws.

Fig. 9. Posterior tarsus.



General color brownish; head, pronotum and forelegs somewhat brighter; antennae, meso- and metanotum and mid and hind legs darker. The following regions are yellowish white: antenniferous tubercles, apex of head,



Megaploiaría fabricii n. sp., female. Wygodzinsky del.

Fig. 10. Venation of forewing.

Fig. 11. Ventral aspect of abdomen, with color pattern.

Fig. 12. Apical region of abdomen, dorsal view.

Fig. 13. Apical region of abdomen, ventral view.

Fig. 14. Apical region of abdomen, lateral view.

rostrum, a transverse stripe at posterior margin of transverse impression of head, as well as ventral surface of head; antero-lateral processes of pronotum with their base, a patch above anterior acetabula, base of fore coxae, a delicate median longitudinal line and the posterior slightly elevated margin of pronotum, as well as the

entire prosternum; the lateral dorsal carinae of mesonotum, a patch on apex of scutellum, a patch on the meso- and metapleura above the acetabula, as well as the greater part of meso- and metasternum; the median and posterior coxae, as well as the apex of median and posterior femora and base of median and posterior tibiae. Forewings uniformly brownish, the costal margin whitish. Abdomen whitish, posterior half of each segment with a dark transverse band, which is almost complete dorsally, ventrally distinct only at sides, forming a triangular patch. Genital region dark.

Body surface slightly shining, with very short and inconspicuous pubescence, without long hairs. Head as in figs. 1—3, antecular region much longer than postocular region, its sides almost parallel. Postocular region very short, strongly convergent behind eyes, laterally at base of collum with 1+1 small tubercles. Collum very short. Distance between eyes dorsally somewhat larger than diameter of eye at dorsal view (1.45 : 1); seen from the side, the eye does not attain the ventral or dorsal surface of the head. Rostrum very slender, shining, bare, first and third joint of subequal length, second distinctly longer. First joint of antennae slender, bare, its length 7.5 mm.

Pronotum (figs. 1 and 3) shorter than head, as wide as long, distinctly convex dorsally, its sides rounded, its hind margin excavate; antero-lateral processes distinct, rounded apically; a delicate median longitudinal furrow extending from anterior to posterior margin. Lateral and ventral view of pronotum as in figs. 2 and 3. Mesonotum (fig. 1) slightly but distinctly longer than pronotum, very feebly convex dorsally, its median longitudinal furrow distinct, extending for its whole length. Lateral carinae subparallel. Lateral and ventral aspect as in figs. 2 and 3. Scutellum (fig. 1) semicircular, with a large median carina, which is widened at base and at apex. Metanotum (fig. 1) subtriangular, rounded apically.

Fore legs as in generic description and figs. 4—8. Trochanter ventrally with 6—10 slender spines of moderate length. Slender spines of ventral surface of fore femur relatively short, not attaining length of diameter of this joint; both series composed of several rows of spines, the postero-ventral series beginning at base of joint, the antero-ventral series beginning at some distance from base, this distance corresponding more or less to length of the diameter of femur at this region. Tarsus and claws as in figs. 7-8. Median and posterior legs simple, slender, posterior femur distinctly surpassing apex of abdomen. Length of median femur 8.2, posterior femur 11.0 and posterior tibia 16.5 mm. Posterior tarsus as in fig. 9.

Fore wings attaining apex of abdomen, their venation as in fig. 10; large discal cell not quite three times as long as apical vein.

Abdomen (fig. 11) elongate, slender, its lateral margins subparallel, widest about middle. Apical segments and genitalia as in figs. 12—14.

Locality: Victoria, Australia (1 ♀, holotype; 1 specimen without abdomen, paratype; 1 larva of the 4th or 5th stage; all in the Universitetets Zoologiske Museum, Copenhagen, from Mus. Hauschild).

The larva examined (length about 8.5 mm) is much as the adult described and figured above, with the only exception of the antero-ventral series of spines on the ventral surface of the anterior femora, which only consists of one row of spines.

Summary.

The subgenus *Ploiaria* (*Megaploiaria*) McAtee & Malloch, 1926, is elevated to generic rank, and its description completed. A new species, *M. fabricii* from Australia is added to the only species known, *M. fusca* McAtee & Malloch, 1926, from the Philippine Islands.
