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## New Anthocoridae from Kuwait and Ethiopia (Heteroptera)

With 18 Figures

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**Abstract.** Two new species of *Xylocoris* (*Proxylocoris*) from Kuwait and one new species of *Orius* (*Orius*) from Ethiopia, are described and illustrated here. *Xylocoris* (*Proxylocoris*) *confusus* CARAYON is also recorded and illustrated, from Kuwait, for the first time. Kuwait and Ethiopia are both zoogeographically interesting and it is hoped that with the help of the present and future data some relationship with Palaearctic, Afrotropical and Oriental regions can be assessed.

### Introduction

Amongst the collections received for identification from Kuwait and Ethiopia, the writer found some specimens of Heteroptera representing new species of Anthocoridae. Three of these are described in the following pages.

Anthocoridae is a family of predaceous bugs which feed upon pests such as aphids, mites, coccids, thrips etc. and are now recognised as important agents for integrated pest control. The areas from which the new species originate are also zoogeographically important. Kuwait is situated at the junction of three regions, the Oriental region in the east, the Palaearctic in the north and the Afrotropical region in the south. It is expected that Kuwait will produce interesting distribution data, on the completion of the present — as well as future — collections of Hemiptera and other orders of Insecta.

Ethiopia, although a part of the Afrotropical region, nevertheless, is similar in some respects to the Palaearctic climate. It has large tracts of higher altitude with cold and dry climate.

The two new species of Anthocoridae from Kuwait belong to the genus *Xylocoris* DUFOUR (1831) and the subgenus *Proxylocoris* CARAYON (1972). CARAYON (1972) not only defined the subgenera of *Xylocoris*, based mainly on the structure of the female ectospermalegae, but also established the consistency of the shape of this organ as a specific character. This has facilitated the identification of the members of this genus to a very great extent. Apart from two new species of *Xylocoris* (*Proxylocoris*), the third species, *X. (P.) confusus* CARAYON, so far known from Mauritania, Sénégal, Eastern Sahara (Tibesti), Sudan, Egypt, Ethiopia and Arabia (Saudi Arabia) (vide CARAYON, 1972) is a new record for Kuwait.

The new species from Ethiopia, being described here, belongs to the very important genus *Orius* WOLFF (1811). Although, according to the key characters the new species does not fall into any existing subgenus but the strict definition of *Orius*, in some respects it is not typical of the majority of the species of *Orius* (*Orius*). It is greenish-yellow in general coloration, and has very conspicuous, totally calloused apex of cuneus, somewhat reminiscent of the *Orius* (*Dimorphella*) *maxidentex* GHOURI (1972).

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Genus **Xylocoris** DUFOR*Xylocoris* DUFOR, 1831 106. Type species *Lygaeus cursitans* FALLÉN, 1807 74.Subgenus **Proxylocoris** CARAYON*Proxylocoris* CARAYON, 1972: 594. Type species *Piezostethus afer* REUTER, 1884: 31, 38.**Xylocoris (Proxylocoris) wasmiae** sp. n. (Figs. 1–4)

**Colour** Dark brown except tegmen and tarsi which are light brown and hind wings which are colourless.

**Size (mm).** Length of head 0.50, width of head across eyes 0.45, width of head between eyes 0.29, distance between ocelli 0.24, space between eye and ocellus 0.03, width of an eye 0.09; length of pronotum 0.45, width of pronotum at anterior margin 0.40, width of pronotum at base 0.87 width of scutellum at base 0.68, length of scutellum 0.53; length of I antennal segment 0.15, length of II antennal segment 0.40; total length of body 3.30.

**Structure** Setae on tegmen, patchy on endocorium and clavus, more regularly scattered on cuneus and exocorium; head swollen at base, ocelli minute, eyes not bulging; pronotum more than half as long as width at base, longer than width at apex, „collar” very narrowly developed; scutellum prominent, wider at base than median length; ectospermalege as in fig. 4, similar to that of *Xylocoris* (P.) *cacti* CARAYON and *X. (P.) galactinus* (FIEBER) (c.f. fig. 4 and figs. 10 & 8, of CARAYON, 1972); but the thickening is in middle rather than at apex (Fig. 8, CARAYON, 1972) and the basal „arm” is much longer than in *X. (P.) cacti* (Fig. 10, CARAYON, 1972). The scent gland apparatus as in fig. 3.

**Material examined** Holotype ♀ (No. 11), Central Kuwait, 11. V 1983 (Dr. WÄSMIA AL HOUTY). In BM (NH), London.

**Comments** The new species *Xylocoris (Proxylocoris) wasmiae* is unlike any of the species described so far from the Old and New World, in the shape of its ectospermalege as described and compared above. It is important to make extensive collections of this and other species of *X. (Proxylocoris)* in Kuwait.

I take pleasure in naming *Xylocoris (Proxylocoris) wasmiae*, in honour of Dr. WÄSMIA AL HOUTY, the first lady entomologist in Kuwait, who collected the specimens of new species. I appreciate her interest in Entomology in general and Kuwaiti insects in particular and hope that she would continue to collect and study insects with greater enthusiasm.

**Xylocoris (Proxylocoris) etawahii** sp. n. (Figs. 5–8)

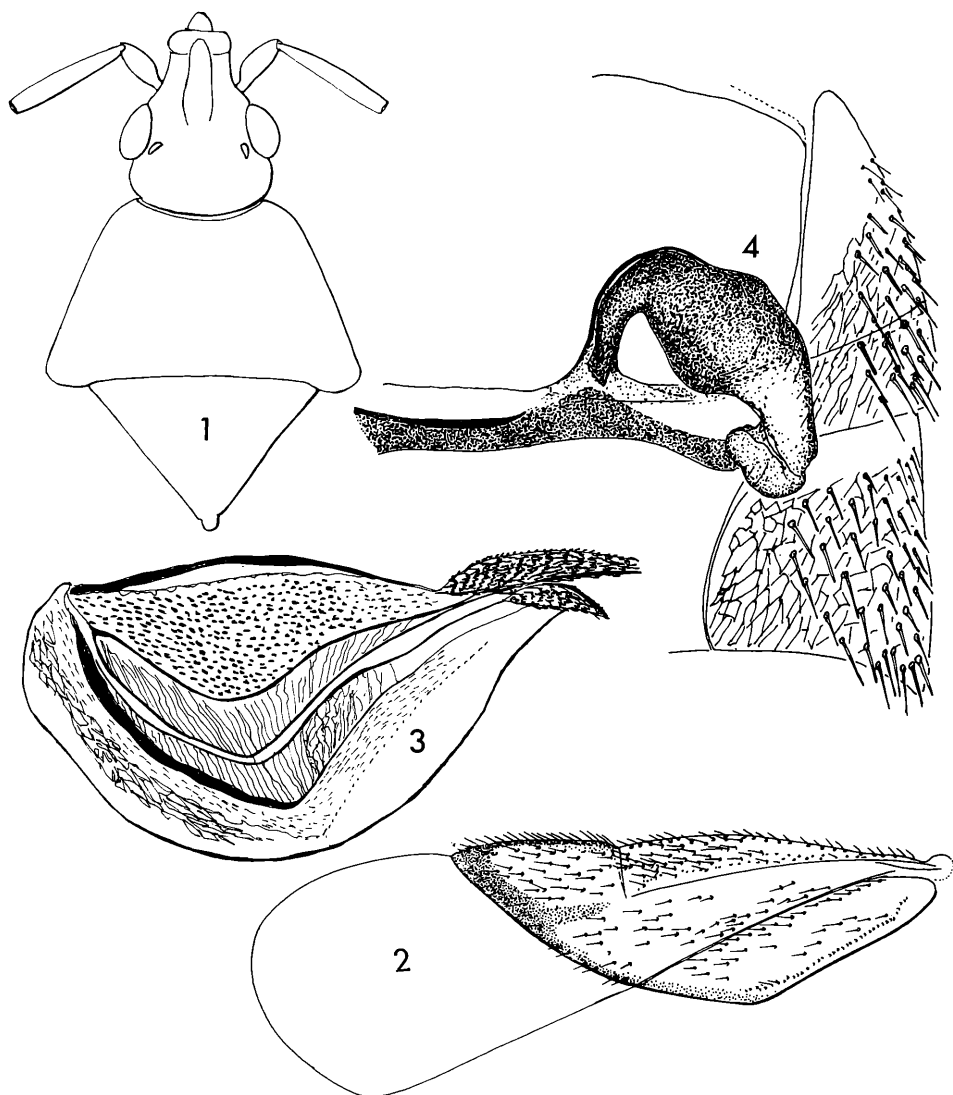
**Colour** Similar to that of *X. (P.) wasmiae* sp. n. except that cuneus and posterior margin of corium and clavus are much darker.

**Size (mm).** Length of head 0.53, width of head across eyes 0.47, width of head between eyes 0.30, distance between ocelli 0.21, space between eye and ocellus 0.02, width of an eye 0.10; length of pronotum 0.45, width of pronotum at anterior margin 0.40, width of pronotum at base 0.91; width of scutellum at base 0.68, length of scutellum 0.53; length of I antennal segment 0.15, length of II antennal segment 0.40; total length of body 3.00.

**Structure** Setae on tegmen, on clavus and exocorium patchy, more regularly scattered on endocorium and cuneus; head swollen at base, ocelli minute, eyes slightly prominent; pronotum half as long as width at base, longer than width at apex, „collar” very narrow; scutellum prominent, wider at base than median length; ectospermalege as in fig. 8, similar in shape to that of *X. (P.) nigromarginatus* CARAYON (1972, fig. 11) but shorter and thicker at apex; scent gland apparatus as in fig. 7

**Material examined** Holotype ♀ (No. 10), Central Kuwait, 15. V 1983 (Dr. WÄSMIA AL HOUTY). In BM (NH), London.

**Comments** The new species, *X. (P.) etawahii* in the shape of its ectospermalege, is unlike any of the Old and New World species. Further specimens of this and other species from Kuwait and neighbouring regions should show interesting results.



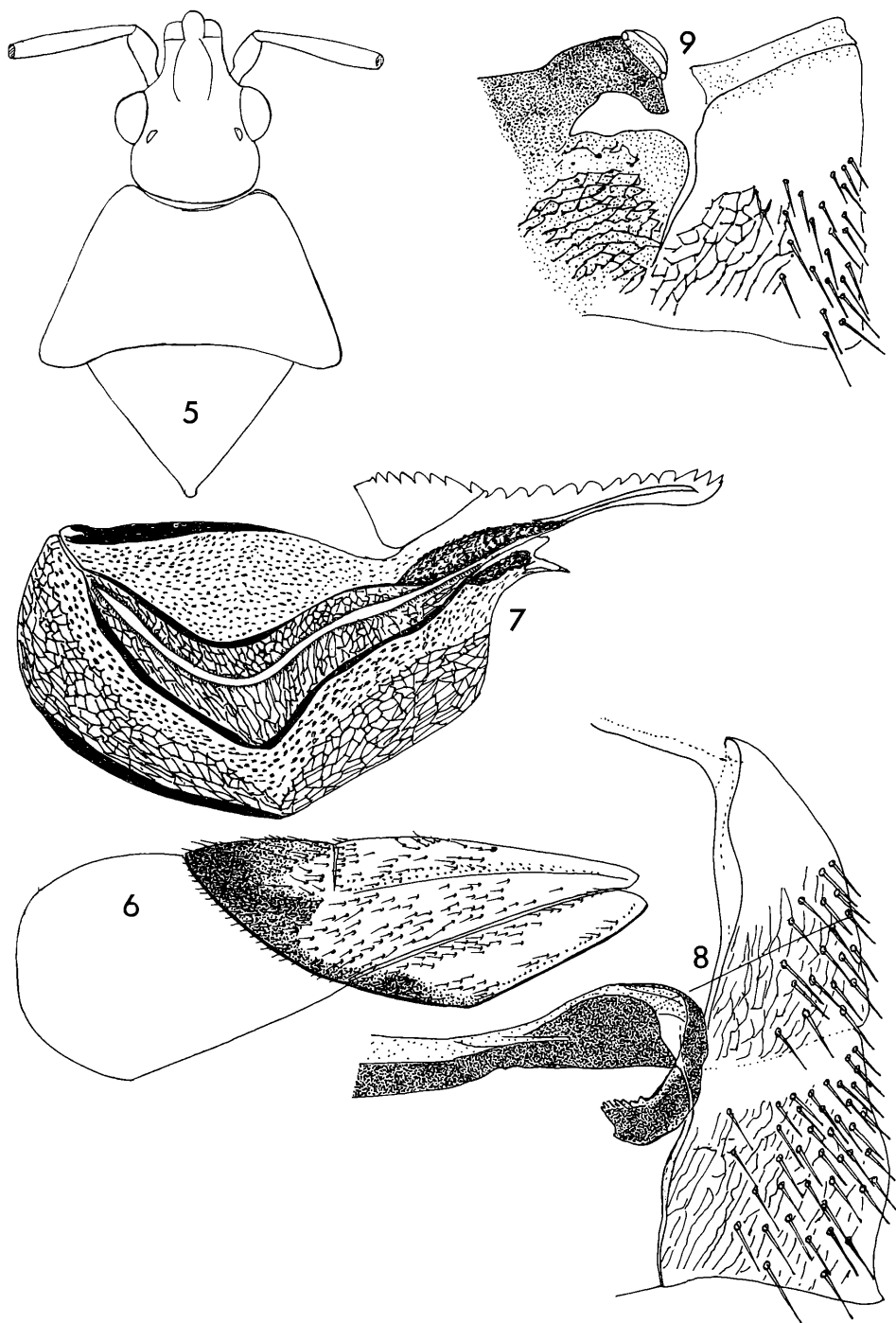
Figs. 1–4. *Xylocoris (Proxylocoris) wasmiae* sp. n. 1, head and thorax, dorsal view; 2, tegmen; 3, scent gland spout; 4, ♀ ectospermalege.

I am pleased in naming the new species, *Xylocoris (Proxylocoris) etawahii*, after my friend Mr. FARUQ HYDER, ETAWAHI, The Chairman Pakistan Services Association in London, in appreciation of his valuable contributions as Manager & Librarian, of The London Urdu Markaz, to the scientific treatment of the literature under his care.

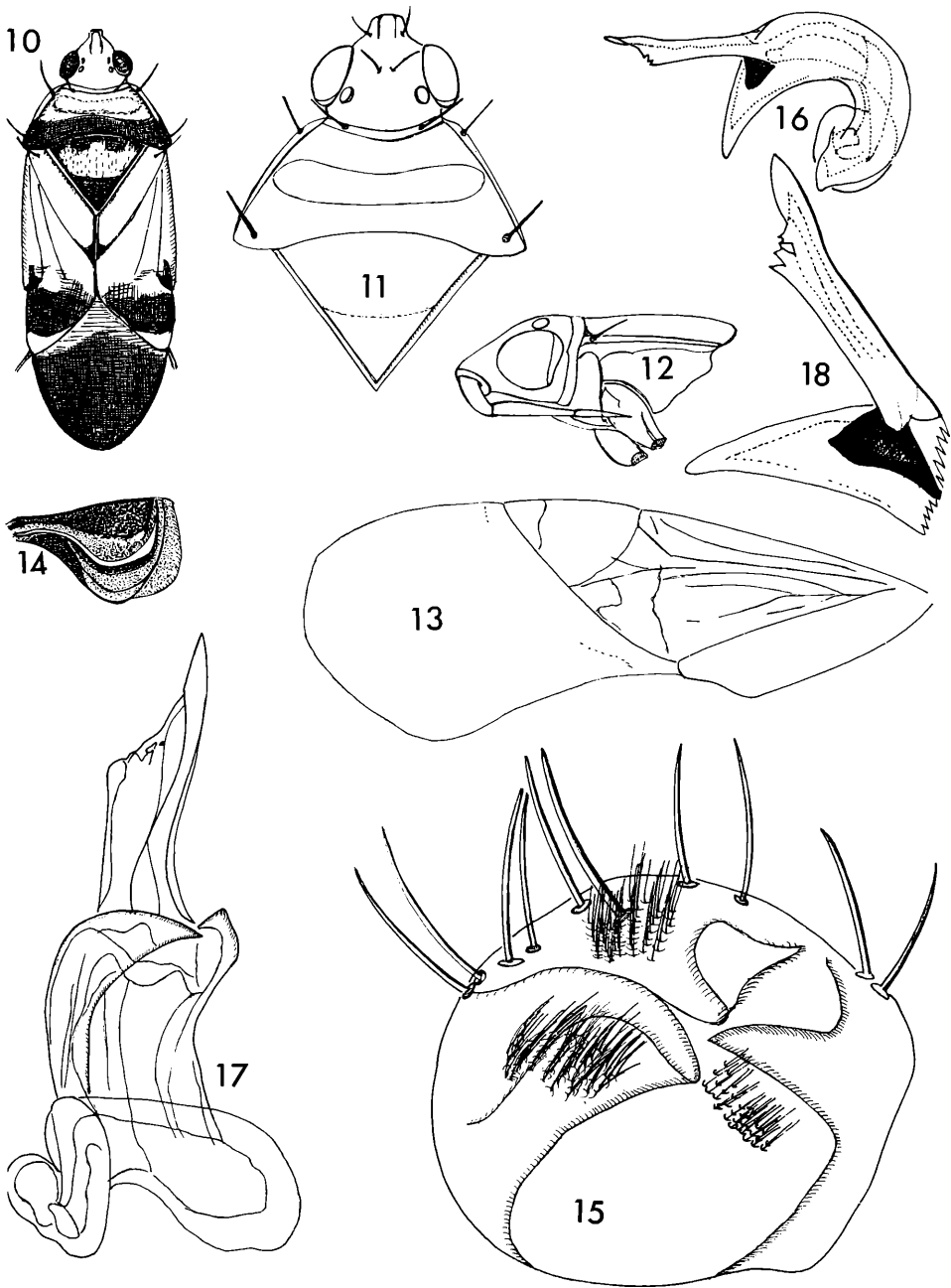
***Xylocoris (Proxylocoris) confusus* CARAYON, 1972 (Fig. 9)**

**Material examined** One ♀ (No. 9), Central Kuwait, 1. VI. 1983 (Dr. WASMIA AL HOUTY). In BM (NH), London.

**Comments** This species was described by CARAYON (1972) from Mauritania, but also recorded by him from Sénégal, Oriental Sahara (Tibesti), Sudan, Egypt. It has been confused in the past with *X. (P.) afer* (REUTER), but is quite distinct in the shape of its ectospermalege, which could be confused with that of *X. (P.) jeanneli* (POPPIUS).



Figs. 5–8. *Xylocoris* (*Proxylocoris*) *etawahii* sp. n. 5, head and thorax, dorsal view 6, tegmen; 7, scent gland spout; 8, ♀ ectospermalegae. — Fig. 9. *Xylocoris* (*Proxylocoris*) *confusus* CARAYON, ♀ ectospermalegae.



Figs. 10–18. *Orius (Orius) shakebi* sp. n. 10, body (legs and antennae omitted), dorsal view; 11, head and thorax, dorsal view, enlarged; 12, the same, lateral view; 13, tegmen; 14, scent gland spout; 15, pygophore; 16, paramere, dorsal view; 17, the same, different view, much enlarged; 18, apex of same, much enlarged.

Genus **Orius** WOLFF  
*Orius* WOLFF, 1811. Type species *Salda nigra* WOLFF, ibid.

**Orius (Orius) shakebi sp. n.** (Figs. 10–18)

**Colour** Greenish yellow, shining, transparent, with very fine, almost invisible punctures sparsely scattered, eyes and ocelli reddish brown, with two pairs on head, one on juga near apex, second near inner margin of eyes, and three pairs on pronotum, one on collar, second on anterior angle and the third on posterior angle, of stiff setae black; anterior dark margin of mesonotum showing through base of pronotum; scutellum, especially at apex, dark, apex of clavus, cuneus and membrane smoky, apex of cuneus, white, opaque, of ivory texture; ventral surface with smoky areas mixed with greenish yellow, the dark patches on surface of body of ♂ darker and on that of ♀ much lighter.

**Size** ♂ (♀) (mm). Length of head 0.34 (0.32), width of head across eyes 0.40 (0.41), width of head between eyes 0.21 (0.21), distance between ocelli 0.17 (0.17), space between eye and ocellus almost nothing, practically touching each other, width of an eye 0.11 (0.10); length of pronotum 0.30 (0.30), width of pronotum at anterior margin 0.40 (0.35), width of pronotum at base 0.82 (0.86); width of scutellum at base 0.60 (0.60), length, median, of scutellum 0.45 (0.45); length of clavus 0.75 (0.77), maximum width of body at anterior margin of cuneus 0.83 (0.91); total body length 2.20 (2.20).

**Structure** ♂ paramere (genitalia) (Figs. 16, 17, 18). Conus short, triangular, flagellum short, wide, flap-like with toothed apex, denticulus short, triangular; tibiae with row of stiff hairs; scent gland spout as in fig. 14, curved anteriorly; pygophore as in fig. 15, with long and groups of short setae.

**Material examined** Holotype ♂ (No. 231), Ethiopia, Ambo, 10. XI. 1983 (D. TITOV), on maize, C. 496, (E), C.I.E. A. 15635. Paratypes ♂ (No. 230), Ethiopia, Ambo, 15. XI. 1983 (D. TITOV), on *Acacia* sp., C. 496, (A), C.I.E. A. 15635; ♀ (No. 229), same data as holotype ♂. All in BM (NH), London.

**Comments** In colour the new species seems to be unique amongst the species of *Orius* and being greenish yellow could easily be confused with another northern African species *Dokkiocoris bicolor* MILLER, 1951, from which it could be differentiated by its longer rostrum, shorter head (the head of *Dokkiocoris bicolor* being elongate) and the body not being elongated and not dorsoventrally flattened.

The new species, *Orius (Orius) shakebi* sp. n., is named in honour of Professor Dr. MOHAMMED ZIAUDDIN AHMED SHAKEB, The President of ILMU MAJLIS (Learned Society), London, in recognition of his erudition as a profound scholar and as an abiding researcher, critic and literary historiographer.

**Acknowledgements**

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