

Notes on *Phyllocycla elongata* (Selys in Selys & Hagen, 1858)  
(Odonata: Gomphidae)

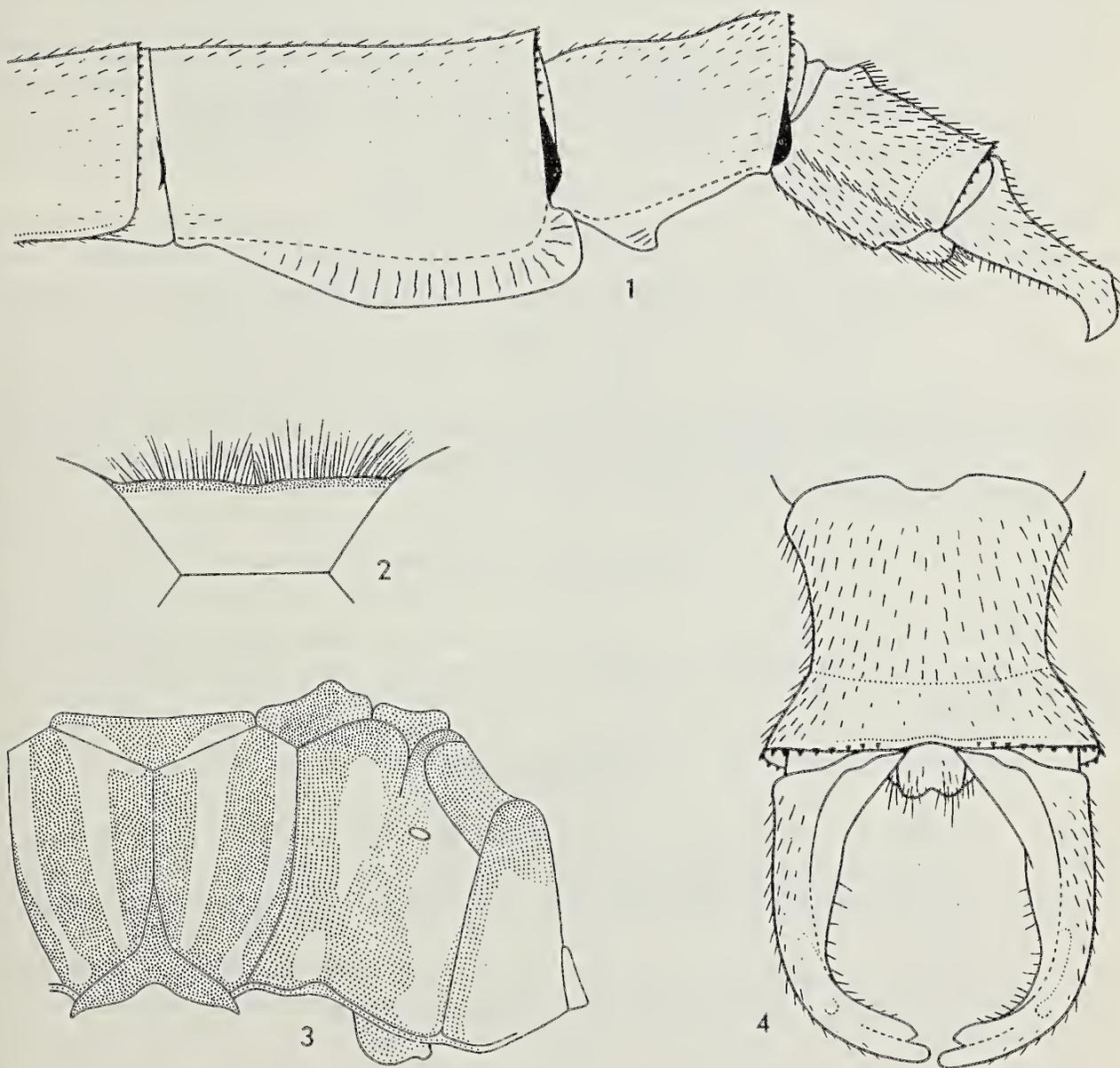
by

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ABSTRACT. — Some characters of one of the two males from Guadalajara, Mexico, referred to the species *Phyllocycla elongata* (Selys in Selys & Hagen, 1858) by Calvert (1905) are compared with those of *Phyllocycla breviphylla* Belle, 1975.

This short communication deals with some features of the male of *Phyllocycla elongata* (Selys in Selys & Hagen, 1858) which was used for the ascertainment of the specific distinction between this species and *Phyllocycla breviphylla* Belle, 1975. This male was one of the two males from Guadalajara, Mexico, referred to the species *Phyllocycla elongata* by Calvert (1905). I



Figs. 1-4. *Phyllocycla elongata* (Selys in Selys & Hagen, 1858) male from Guadalajara, Mexico: (1) apical segments of abdomen and caudal appendages, left lateral view; — (2) occipital plate; — (3) diagram of pterothorax; — (4) tenth abdominal segment and caudal appendages, dorsal view.

have made this selection because the holotype of this species could not be located in the Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris (Legrand 1975, personal communication).

In my paper of 1975 dealing with two new Central American species of *Phyllocycla* it was asserted that no figure was published of *elongata*. This is an error since some details of the holotype of this species were illustrated in the *Monographie des Gomphines* (1858) by Hagen. In the same paper of 1975 I described *Phyllocycla breviphylla* from El Salto which is situated on the other side of the watershed of the Sierra Madre than Guadalajara.

As clearly appears from the respective figures given by me for *elongata* and *breviphylla* the most striking morphological difference between the males of the two species is found in the lateral expansions of the ninth abdominal segment. These are acutely angulated near the base in *elongata*; they are curved throughout without any tendency to form a basal angulation in *breviphylla*.

Dr. Westfall (Gainesville) informed me that some males of *Phyllocycla* collected and referred to *elongata* by diverse American Odonatologists show a considerably less development of this basal angulation, and that this fact weakens the validity of the specific distinction. Attention will be paid by him regarding the intraspecific characters of *elongata*.

It must be said, that the lateral expansions of the ninth abdominal segment in *breviphylla* varies noticeably. The expansions in the paratype male from Nicaragua are about half as broad as those in the type.

The other morphological differences between the two species are rather slight. The male from Guadalajara has a somewhat higher frons, and the middorsal length of the occipital plate is relatively smaller than in *breviphylla*. Further the superior caudal appendages have a somewhat shorter ante-apical inner strip than in *breviphylla*, and a low tubercle at the superior ante-apical angulation. There is not such a tubercle in *breviphylla*.

Regarding the coloration it may be noted that the male from Guadalajara is paler than the specimens of *breviphylla*, the dark colour of which is more blackish. Very remarkable is the difference in the coloration of the metepimeron. This sclerite is pale to the posterior margin in the male from Guadalajara; it possesses a pale band through the median part of the metepimeron in the specimens of *breviphylla*. Finally the pale basal marking of the third abdominal segment in the male from Guadalajara is elongated middorsally to a point three-quarters the way along the segment while the middle portion of the segments 4 and 5 is provided with a rather broad pale band. The pale middorsal band on these segments is reduced to a fine pale middorsal line in the males of *breviphylla*.

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

My thanks are due to Mr. Peter H. Ward owing to whose kindness I have been able to study and to figure the male of *Phyllocycla elongata* in the collection of the British Museum (Natural History), London.

#### REFERENCES

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TER OVERNAME. Vlinderval (trecherval) met HPL-lamp, voorschakelapparaat en 50 m kabel, tegen elk aannemelijk bod. J. W. Op den Camp, Moutheuvelsweg 5, Stein (Lbg.).