

* A new aphid from West Africa (Homopt., Aphid.)
by
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Macrosiphum (Sitobion) congoensis n. sp.

APTEROUS VIVIPAROUS FEMALE (Fig. 1.).

Morphological characters. Body slender, about 2.20—2.50 mm long. Tergum smooth, faintly sclerotic, very faintly yellowish with the head and small pleural intersegmental sclerites just darker. Dorsal hairs inversely bottle-shaped, only 0.005 mm long, also those on VIIIth abd. tergite where 2—4 hairs are present. Inconspicuous nearly flat marginal tubercles on abd. segments II—IV, spinal tubercles absent. Antenniferous frontal tubercles rather well developed,

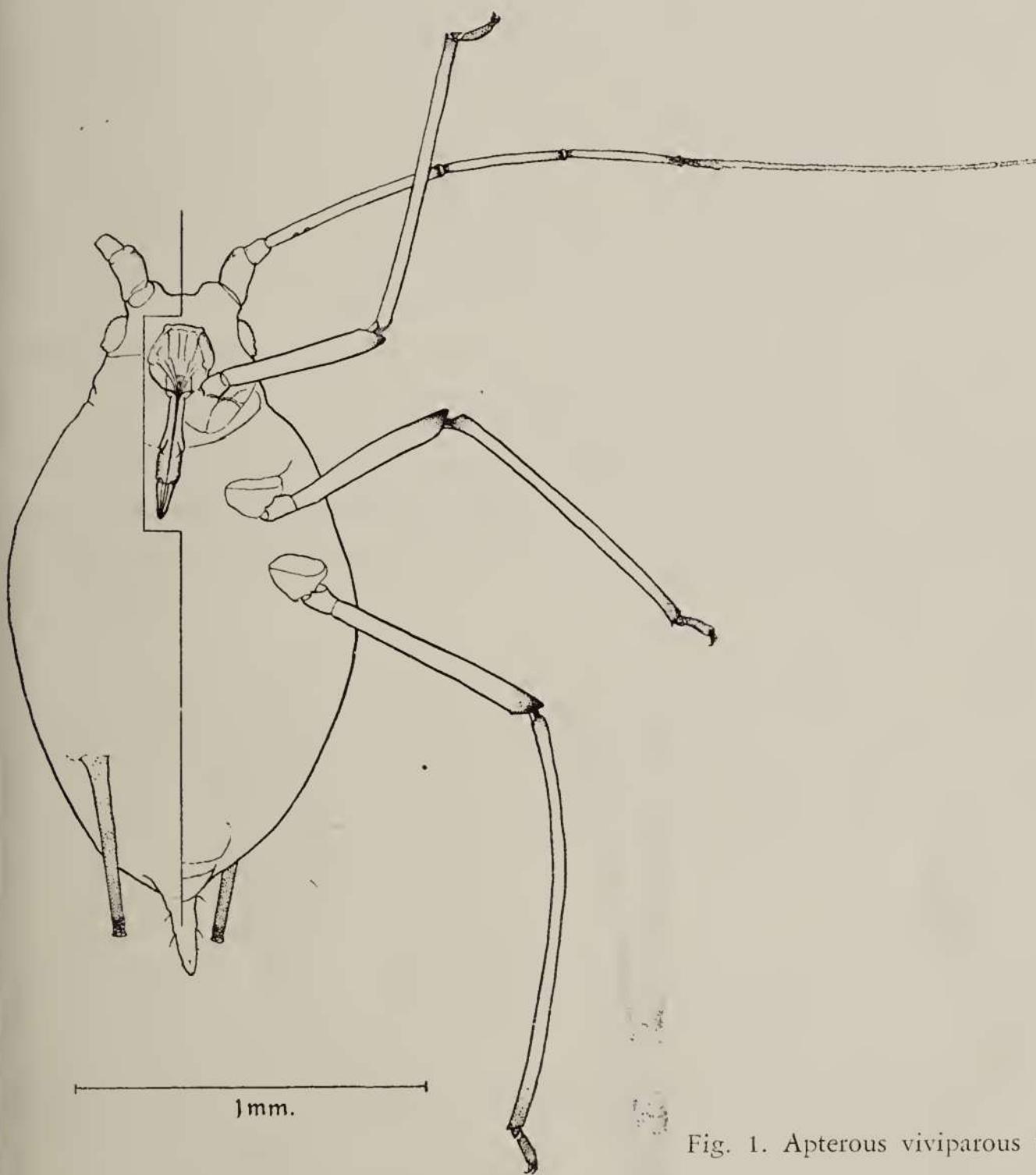


Fig. 1. Apterous viviparous female.

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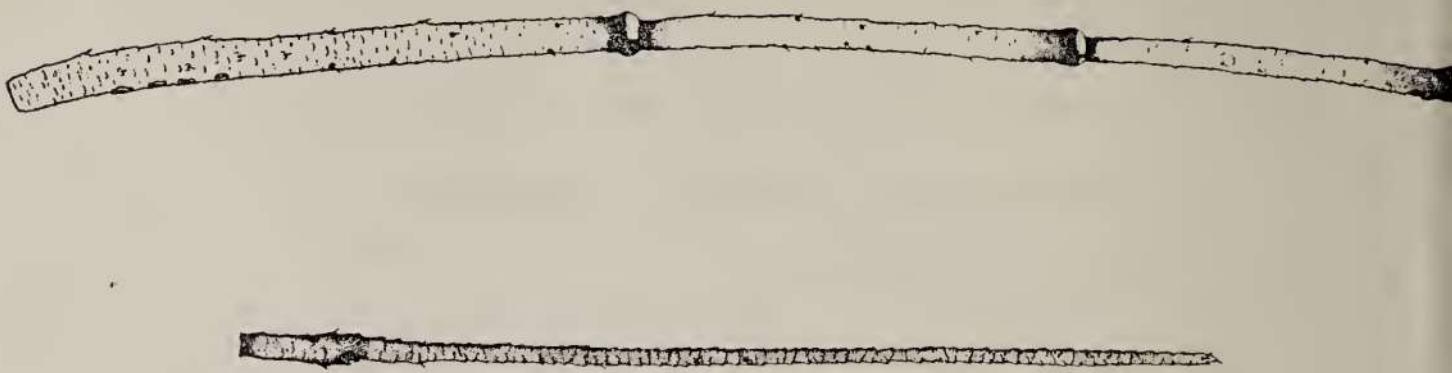


Fig. 2. Apterous viviparous female, antenna.

slightly diverging, rounded at inner apex and only there somewhat roughened by semiglobular nodules; median frontal tubercle conspicuous, broad, indistinctly rough. Antennae (fig. 2) $1\frac{1}{20}$ — $1\frac{1}{6}$ times as long as body, pale with the extreme apices of segment III, the bases and apices of IV and V and the whole of segment VI black; in rather recently moulted specimens with the base of segment VI and the basal part of the processus terminalis slightly paler; 1st segment ventrally on distal half slightly imbricated, on the outer side mainly on basal half with 4—6 hairs and sometimes a small spinule; flagellum evenly imbricated; IIIrd segment near base with 1—4 rather small, flat rhinaria; processus terminalis $6\frac{1}{4}$ — $7\frac{1}{2}$ times as long as base of VIth segment, about $1\frac{1}{5}$ — $1\frac{2}{5}$ times IIIrd segment. Hairs on IIIrd segment at most $\frac{1}{4}$ of the diameter of the segment at its very base. Rostrum reaching the hind coxae; apical segment with rather straight sides, about $1\frac{1}{5}$ times as long as 2nd joint of hind tarsi (without the claws), with 5—7 hairs (4 of which are placed laterally) besides the 3 pairs near apex. Siphunculi (fig. 4) slender, in the middle as thick as the hind tibiae in the middle, somewhat dilated towards base, but on distal two-thirds nearly cylindrical, often suddenly tapering at the tip, pale at base and rather gradually darker to cloudy

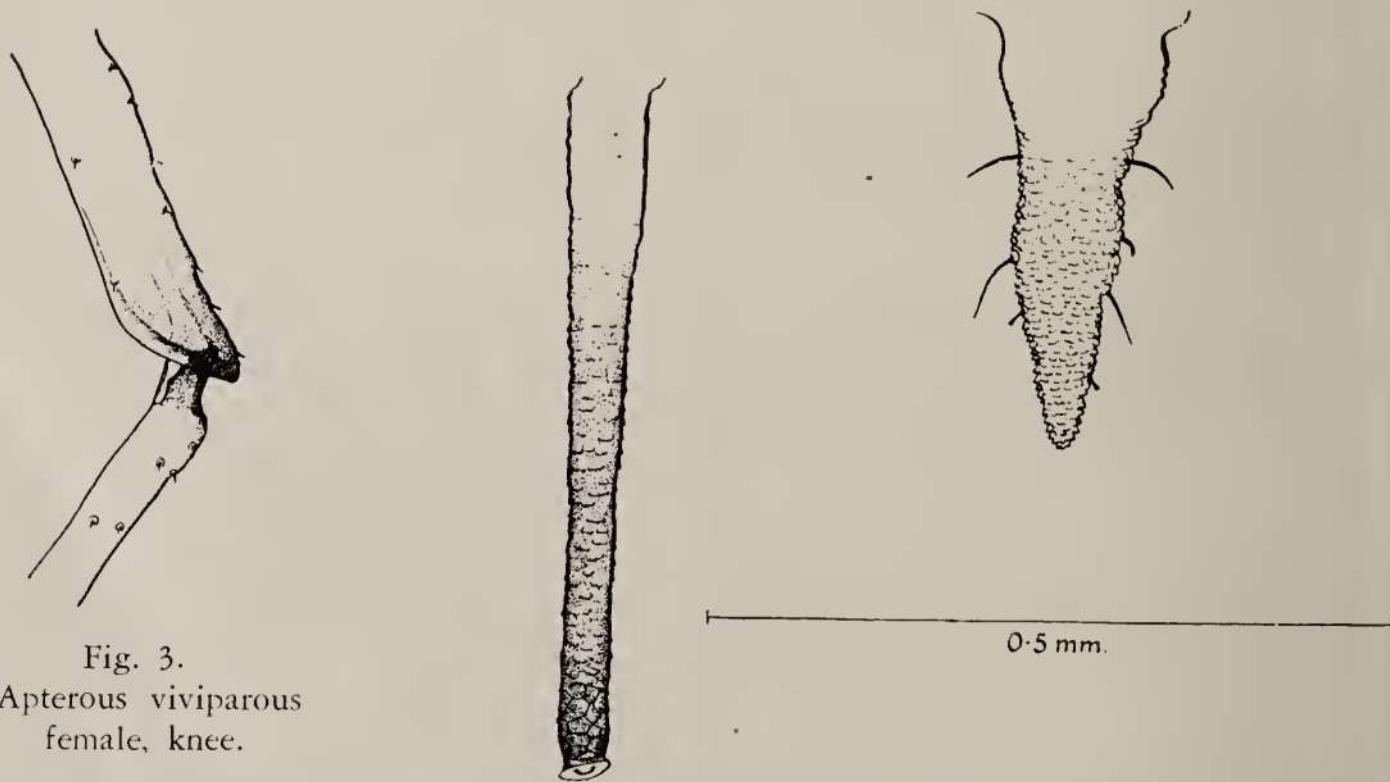


Fig. 3.
Apterous viviparous
female, knee.

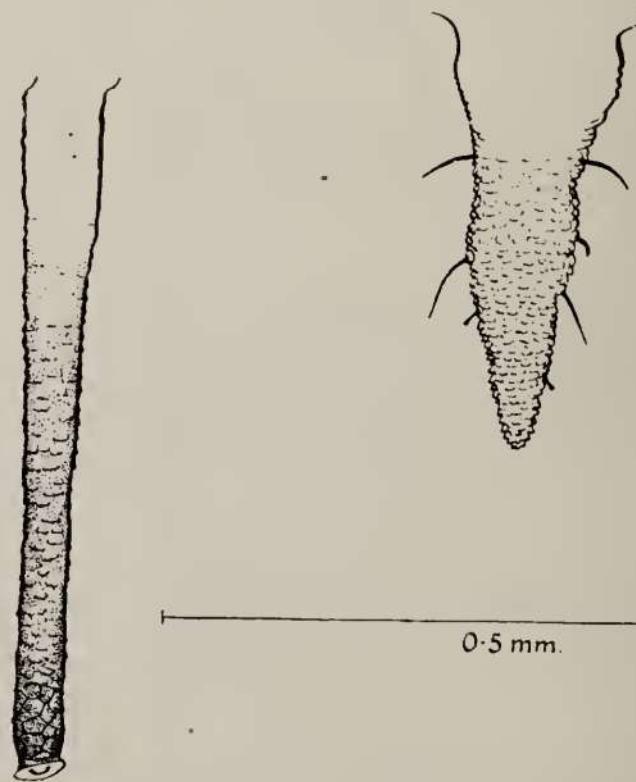


Fig. 4. Siphunculus and cauda.

black from basal one-fourth to the tip, evenly imbricated from base with on apical $1/9$ — $1/6$ distinct, normal reticulation, sometimes very faintly incrassate in the reticulated area; flange small. Cauda pale, ensiform, almost acute, hardly constricted, a little more than half as long as the siphunculi, with 6—8 hairs of which usually some are blunt or otherwise abnormal in shape. Legs long, pale with the knees (fig. 3) jet black and the apices of the tibiae and the tarsi dark; femora more or less distinctly imbricated towards apex, especially ventrally; first tarsal joints with 3, 3, 3, hairs, the middle hair just shorter but much stouter than the lateral ones.

Colour. Unknown.

Measurements in mm:

No.	Length body	Ant.	Siph.	Cau	Rhin. on III	Ant.	segments			
							III	IV	V	VI
1	2.27	2.49	0.62	0.33	3 & 4	0.61	0.44	0.36	0.12 +	0.79
2	2.21	2.32	0.56	0.31	2 & ?	0.56	0.40	0.32	0.11 +	0.72
3	2.27	2.55	0.63	0.36	1 & 2	0.62	0.44	0.35	0.12 +	0.83
4	2.21	?	0.64	0.35	1 & 2	0.62	0.44	0.35	0.13 +	?
5	?	2.49	0.62	?	2 & 2	0.65	0.43	0.35	0.11 +	0.77
6	2.21	?	0.60	0.32	2 & ?	0.58	0.43	0.36	?	+ ?
7	2.47	2.62	0.66	0.36	3 & 3	0.63	0.45	0.37	0.12 +	0.85

(1—2, from unidentified plant, Leopoldsville, Belgian Congo, 26.VIII.1954, leg. H. FRANZ; 3—7, from *Vernonia amygdalina* Delile, Tafo, Gold Coast, 14.VI.1946, leg. R. G. DONALD).

ALATE VIVIPAROUS FEMALE.

Morphological characters (from one specimen). Rather like apterous viviparous female, but differing as follows: head rather dark, fuscous around the ocelli; pronotum like the head; pterothorax blackish; abdomen pale with small brownish marginal sclerites. Antennae both with the apices of the processi terminales broken, but even so longer than body; Ist and IIInd segment pigmented like the head, with the inner side darker; IIIInd segment blackish with pale base, with 15 rhinaria almost in a line along its whole length; some of the rhinaria very much smaller than the majority; IVth and Vth segment with their basal part much paler than IIIInd segment. Siphunculi wholly dark, with smaller minimum diameter, more gradually tapering and with a very conspicuous swelling in the reticulated area. Cauda comparatively shorter and more slender. Legs with the apices of the femora more extensively blackish. Wings with normal venation, the veins not bordered with brown.

Colour. Unknown.

Measurements in mm: Length of body : 2.04; ant. : 2.12; siph.: 0.49; cau.: 0.23. Ant. segments : $\frac{0.51}{\text{III}}$, $\frac{0.40}{\text{IV}}$, $\frac{0.30}{\text{V}}$, $\frac{0.12-0.58}{\text{VI}}$. Rhin. on IIIInd ant. segment: 15 & 15 (from *Vernonia amygdalina*, Tafo, Gold Coast, 14.VI.'46, leg. R. G. DONALD).

FIRST INSTAR LARVA.

Morphological characters. Antennae of 5 segments, pigmented

like those in the apterous female; IIIrd segment without hairs. Cauda with 2 hairs. First tarsal joints with 2 hairs.

DISCUSSION.

Some specimens in the sample from Belgian Congo occasionally show a very small spinule basad of the hairs on the outerside of the 1st ant. segment, which was not found in the specimens from the Gold Coast. In all other respects the samples correspond very closely. According to information received from Prof. W. ROBYNS of Brussels, *Vernonia amygdalina* is a rather common plant in Belgian Congo, occurring round Leopoldsville.

The species can easily be distinguished by the pigmentation of the antennae and legs, both in apterae and alatae. We know of no other member of the genus which shows such a pigmentation, particularly the blackening of the extreme basal part of the tibiae. A species with similar antennae from Gramineae in Asia has pale knees as apterae and the curious short ultimate rostral segment of a grass-feeder. Also the shape of the apex of the siphunculi is very characteristic in most of the specimens. The specimens from Leopoldsville were taken from the small leaves of a young shoot.

Types: Cotypes in the British Museum (Nat. Hist.), London and in the collection of the second author.

✓ De kweek van *Ephyia rubidata* Schiff. Op 5 Juni 1954 werd door mij een wijfje van bovengenoemde vlinder op licht gevangen. Daar het een vrij zeldzaam voorkomende soort is, alsook om hetgeen LEMPKE in zijn Catalogus er over schrijft, besloot ik te proberen er eitjes van te krijgen. Inderdaad zette het wijfje op 6 en 7 Juni in totaal 31 eitjes af. In de morgen van de 11e Juni kwamen de eerste rupsjes te voorschijn en tegen de avond waren alle eitjes al uitgekomen. De diertjes werden op Walstro gezet en begonnen er direct van te eten. De groei ging zo snel, dat op 30 Juni bij sommige rupsen de inpopping al begon. Op 5 Juli hadden alle rupsen zich verpopt. Reeds op 24.VII en 1.VIII.1954 kwamen twee vinders uit. De andere verschenen pas in 1955, de eerste op 8 Mei en deze werd gevolgd door 24 andere tussen 21 Mei en 17 Juni.

Daar de rupsen overdag verborgen leven en de kweek zo snel verliep, was niet na te gaan, wanneer de vervellingen plaats vonden.

Welke vormen deze kweek opgeleverd heeft, heb ik nog niet uitgezocht. Dat f. *albescens* Lempke er bij is, is wel zeker, daar die door het wit zijn van de benedenhelft van het midenveld en het daarbij aansluitende deel van de gewaterde band direct opvalt.

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✓ *Dicranomerus medius* M. R. Naar aanleiding van het artikel van de heer P. A. A. LOOF over „Een nieuwe vindplaats van *Dicranoccephalus medius* M.R.” in Ent. Ber. 16: 1, januari 1956, moge ik een paar opmerkingen maken:

De soort werd door mij gememoreerd op de 84e Wintervergadering der N.E.V., waarvan het verslag gepubliceerd werd in Tijdschr. Entom. 95: CXVI. Zij werd hier vermeld van Rijkel aan de Maas, waar zij veelvuldig op en onder *Euphorbia seguieriana* Neck. (*gerardiana* Jacq.) gevangen werd. Zij is dus reeds aan de grote rivieren gesignaleerd.

Wat de genusnaam *Dicranoccephalus* betreft, deze is gepreoccupeerd door dezelfde naam voor een tropisch kevergeslacht. Hij moet daarom vervangen worden door de eveneens door HAHN gebruikte naam: *Dicranomerus* Hahn, 1826.

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