

DESCRIPTIONS OF NEW AUSTRALIAN CICADIDÆ IN
THE NATIONAL MUSEUM, MELBOURNE.

By *Howard Ashton.*

(Plate IV., Figs. a, c, i.)

While engaged in the preparation of the Catalogue of Victorian Cicadidæ in the National Museum, the following species were found to be new.

These, with the consent of the Director, Professor Baldwin Spencer, I am now enabled to describe and figure.

Family Cicadidæ.

SUB-FAMILY CICADINÆ.

Division Cicadaria.

GENUS MACROTRISTRIA.

MACROTRISTRIA DORSALIS, SP. NOV. (Fig. a, 1, 2.)

Male.—Body above ochraceous, mesonotum tinged with brownish, in fresh specimens probably greenish. Central sulcus to vertex of head, a short longitudinal and anteriorly angulate spot on each side of region of ocelli, and anterior margins to eyes and basal margin of front very narrowly black. Abdomen with a broad central dorsal longitudinal fascia extending from base, where it is very wide, and narrowing sharply to penultimate segment; base of apical segment and spot on anal appendage piceous or black. Face and head beneath, bright ochraceous; sternum, opercula, and legs sordid ochraceous brown; anterior and intermediate tarsi and disc of abdomen beneath warm fuscous. Tegmina and wings hyaline, tale-like; tegmina with costal membrane and area and basal half of venation ochraceous; postcostal area and apical venation fuscous, and claval nervure black; wings to basal two-thirds of venation pale ochraceous, apical veins light fuscous. Head (including eyes) equal in breadth to lateral dilations of posterior pronotal margin. Abdomen much shorter than space between apex of head and base of cruciform elevation; rostrum with tip piceous, barely reaching posterior coxæ. Lateral areas of abdomen much depressed. Long., male 25 mm., female, 23 mm.; exp. teg. 75 mm.

Habitat.—Kuranda, Queensland; several male and female specimens. (Presented by R. W. Armitage, 1908.)

Allied to *M. intersecta*, Walk., and *M. sylvanella*, God. and Frogg., but differing in the shorter abdomen and overlapping opercula. Differing also from *M. extrema*, Dist., by the narrower head and thorax. The dark fascia on the dorsum renders it easily identifiable.

SUB-FAMILY TIBICININÆ.

Division *Melampsaltraria*.

GENUS MELAMPSALTA.

MELAMPSALTA CYLINDRICA, SP. NOV. (Fig. i.).

Male.—Body above black, anterior and lateral discal areas of pronotum suffused with castaneous, a central short longitudinal fascia to same; spots on mesonotal cruciform elevation, posterior margins of third, fourth, fifth, sixth, and seventh abdominal segments and tip of anal appendage ochraceous. Head beneath, sternum and legs piceous, margins of front, a large spot on each side of prosternum, rostrum (excluding apex) apices of coxæ, trochanters beneath, stripes to anterior femora, stripe beneath and apices of intermediate and posterior femora, bases of intermediate and posterior tarsi, opercula, and posterior margins of third, fourth, fifth, and sixth abdominal segments, ochraceous. Tegmina talc-like, costa and venation brownish-testaceous at base, piceous towards apex; first and second apical anastomoses broadly and darkly suffused with fuscous. Wings similar, with anal streak milky. Head narrower than pronotum, which is equal in width to the mesonotum and abdomen; abdomen longer than space between apex of front and base of cruciform elevation. Breadth of tegmina considerably more than one-third the length. Rostrum reaching intermediate coxæ; opercula large, obliquely reniform, shining piceous at base. Long., male, 25 mm.; exp. teg., 68 mm.

Habitat.—Victoria (Fernshaw).

One male in the collection labelled *M. laberculata*, Dist., by Goding and Froggatt. The species resembles superficially one of the smaller species of *Tibicina*, being similar in general form to *T. septemdecim*, Linn., the well-known U.S.A. species.

MELAMPSALTA CAPISTRATA, SP. NOV. (Fig. c.).

Male.—Body above and below yellow. Head with broad black fascia (embracing area of ocelli) between eyes. Pronotum with central longitudinal fascia and narrow borders to lateral margins black. Mesonotum black, metanotum and abdomen yellow. Tegmina and wings hyaline, immaculate, venation piceous, costa yellow. Body below with sides of face and apex of rostrum (which extends to intermediate coxæ), black.

Female.—With the mesonotum also yellow, and four obconical anterior marginal spots (central pair shortest), fine central fascia behind these, and spots before the anterior angle of cruciform elevation black. Abdominal segments finely margined with black.

Long., male, 11 mm.; female, 14 mm.; exp. teg., male, 31 mm.; female, 38 mm.

Habitat.—Queensland (Kuranda). Presented by R. W. Armitage.

Allied to *M. froggatti*, Dist. I have examined two male and one female specimens; one of the males has five apical areas only in one wing.

EXPLANATION OF PLATE IV.

Fig. *a*, 1, 2.—*Macrotristria dorsalis*, sp. nov. Queensland.

Fig. *c*.—*Melampsalta capistrata*, sp. nov. Queensland.

Fig. *i*.—*Melampsalta cylindrica*, sp. nov. Victoria.

