

## A NEW COMBINATION AND A NEW SYNONYMY IN DISCOCEPHALINI (HETEROPTERA, PENTATOMIDAE)

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ABSTRACT. *Cataulax varicornis* (Walker, 1867) is transferred to the genus *Ablaptus* Stål, 1864. *Ablaptus lopesi* Becker & Grazia, 1989 is considered as a new synonym. The female genitalia is described and illustrated.

KEY WORDS. Pentatomidae, Discocephalini, *Cataulax*, *Ablaptus*, new combination, new synonym

In the course of the revision of the genus *Cataulax* Spinola, 1837 (BECKER & GRAZIA in press) the authors had the opportunity to examine the type specimens of *Pentatoma varicornis* Walker, 1867, and *Cataulax decoloratus* Walker, 1868, a female and a male respectively. DISTANT (1899) was the first to recognize the identity of these specimens establishing the synonymy between *P. varicornis* and *C. decoloratus*. RUCKES (manuscript) considered them congeneric with *Ablaptus* Stal, 1864, so that the specimens were labeled by him as *A. varicornis*.

This new combination is here officially proposed as well as *A. lopesi* Becker & Grazia, 1989, so far known from a single male specimen (BECKER & GRAZIA 1989) included as a new synonym. The pygophore in the type specimen is lacking, but the shape of the median process of the posterior margin of the seventh segment suffices to characterise this species. The measurements of the female are given and the genitalia described and illustrated

### *Ablaptus varicornis* (Walker, 1867), **comb.n.**

*Pentatoma varicornis* Walker, 1867: 291.

*Cataulax decoloratus* Walker, 1868: 564. -Lethierry & Severin, 1893: 85.

*Cataulax varicornis*; Distant, 1899: 422. - Kirkaldy, 1909: 216. **Syn.:** *C. decoloratus*.

*Ablaptus lopesi* Becker & Grazia, 1989: 64-66. **Syn.n.**

Types. *Pentatoma varicornis* Walker, 1867. Holotype female with following labels: Type, Brit. Mus. Type N° HEM 664, *Pentatoma varicornis*, Braz 62 57, *Ablaptus varicornis* (Walk.) det. H. Ruckes, 1960. Deposited in The Natural History Museum, London.

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*Cataulax decoloratus* Walker, 1868. Holotype male with following labels: Amazon, *Cataulax decoloratus*, Type, *Ablaptus varicornis* (Walker) det. H. Ruckes, 1960, Brit. Mus. Type N° HEM 665. Deposited in The Natural History Museum, London.

*Ablaptus lopesi* Becker & Grazia, 1989. Holotype male, from Tapuruquara, Rio Negro, Amazonas, Brazil 25-27/XI/1962 (J. Bechyné). Deposited in the Fundação Oswaldo Cruz, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

Female. Measurements (in milimeters). Length of head 1.96; antecular length 1.14; width of head 3.28; width between eyes 1.80; width between ocelli 1.14; length of antennal segments I 0.82, II 1.55, III 1.31, IV 2.46, V missing; pronotal length 3.28; width across humeri 7.70; scutelar length 5.41; basal width 4.92; total body length 11.80; width across third abdominal segment 7.05.

Genitalia. Posterior margin of seventh sternite evenly concave on gonocoxites 8, lateral thirds rectilinear. Gonocoxites 8 with parallel sutural borders; posterior margin truncate and very slightly concave on laterotergites 9. Laterotergites 9 small, evenly rounded in outline, barely surpassing the transverse band that unites the laterotergites 8, inner margins slightly overlapping (Fig. 1).

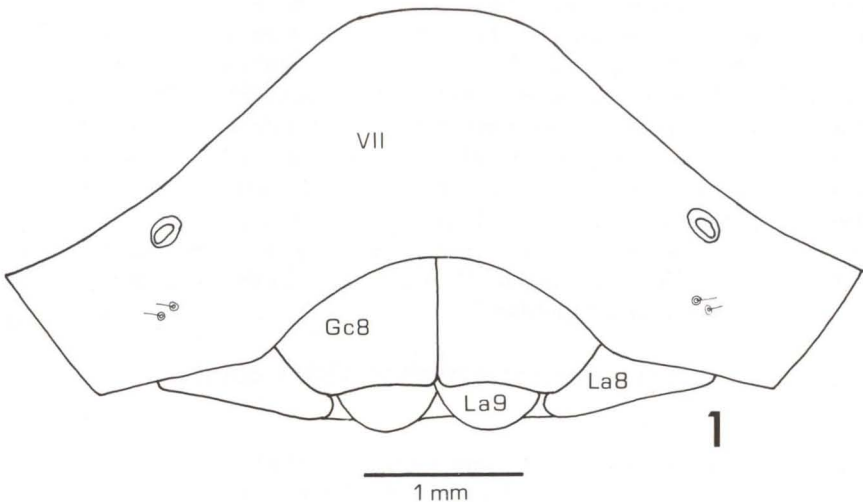


Fig. 1. *Ablaptus varicornis* (Walker, 1867), holotype, ventral view of the female genital plates. (La8) Laterotergites 8, (La9) laterotergites 9, (Gc8) gonocoxites 8, (VII) seventh sternite.

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