



Fig. 1. *Bothynotus johnstoni* Knight, female (from Henry, 1979).

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Acanthocephala declivis (Say), a Coreid Bug New to the Virginia Fauna

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Four species of the coreid genus *Acanthocephala* occur in southeastern United States. One was recorded for Virginia in my synopsis of the squash bugs of the state (1975) and two others were listed as likely to occur. For one of the latter, *A. declivis* (Say), I noted that the northernmost known locality was Raleigh, North Carolina (Brimley, 1938), and prophesied that "It seems entirely probable that *declivis* will be discovered in south-central Virginia."

In recently transferring the Heteroptera from the insect collection donated by the University of Richmond to this Museum I was delighted to notice a strikingly big *Acanthocephala* which proved to be *A. declivis* and therefore fulfilled the prophesy. The insect was collected by W. Russell on 20 July 1938 at Borgart's Beach on the James River, just north of Smithfield, Isle of Wight County. In extending the known range of the species approximately 220 km to the northeast, this record

dominantly austral biota of Seashore State Park and to the heteropterous fauna of Virginia as well.

Males of this species have been taken chiefly at lights, females (probably not volant) mostly from pitfall traps. Those from Clarke County, Georgia, were from pitfalls set in sandy soil about 6 m from the Oconee River, in mixed oak-hickory woods. It is remarkable that the drift fence pitfalls in Seashore State Park, which were operated continuously for 15 months in sandy habitats, obtained but a single specimen. However, with over a hundred samples from various other sites in Virginia beach yet to be sorted, it seems possible that others may be recovered.

Literature Cited

Henry, T. J. 1979. Review of the New World species of *Bothynotus* Fieber (Hemiptera: Miridae). *Florida Entomologist* 62:232-244.

brings the known Virginia coreids to 16 and narrows the gap that existed with North Carolina's 19 species.

Now it becomes the turn of *A. femorata*, likewise known from central and eastern North Carolina, to be discovered in Virginia.

Literature Cited

Brimley, C. S. 1938. *Insects of North Carolina*. Department of Agriculture, Raleigh, North Carolina. pp. 1-560.

Hoffman, R. L. 1975. The Insects of Virginia. Squash, broad-headed, and scentless plant bugs of Virginia (Hemiptera: Coreoidea: Coreidae, Alydidae, Rhopalidae). *The Insects of Virginia*, No.9. Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State University, Research Division Bulletin 105. pp. 1-52.