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ENTOMOLOGY.—A new *Prorhinotermes* from Panama. T. E. SNYDER, Bureau of Entomology.

J. Zetek and I. Molino of this Bureau, stationed at Ancon, Canal Zone, have recently collected a species in the genus *Prorhinotermes* Silvestri, which proves to be new. This new termite (*Prorhinotermes molinoi* Snyder) was found on Largo Remo Island, Canal Zone, on the Atlantic Coast. With the addition of this new species, the known termite fauna of Panama totals 30 species, representing 18 genera or sub-genera. The termites of Panama are of great biological interest; three families are well represented, but the Termitidae are the most numerous. Since the forming of Gatun Lake some species are apparently now confined to virgin islands in this lake.

Species of *Prorhinotermes* apparently are not subterranean in habit. In burrowing through wood the grain is followed; the hardest species of woods are riddled.

***Prorhinotermes molinoi*, new species.**

Winged adult.—Head greyish-brown, darker than *P. simplex* Hagen; spectacle markings on epicranium, but slightly longer than broad, slightly broader posteriorly than anteriorly, with few scattered long hairs—3 transverse rows.

Fontanelle distinct, hyaline, sub-oval spot, on line at posterior of ocelli. Eyes black, nearly round, large, projecting, less than their diameter from lateral margin of head, a little less than twice their diameter from the posterior margin of the head. Ocelli hyaline, subelliptical, narrow, pointed at apex, nearly touching eyes, at oblique angle to eyes, nearly parallel to upper margin of antennal socket. Post-clypeus lighter colored than head, bilobed, projecting. Labrum lighter colored than head, arched, tongue-shaped, broader than long, broadest beyond central transverse line, with long hairs at apex.

Antennae yellow-brown, 17 or 18 segments, pubescent (long hairs); third segment is shorter and narrower than second or fourth segments; segments are wedge-shaped, but become broader and longer towards apex; last segment elongate and subelliptical.

Pronotum same color as head, broader than long, anterior margin slightly (concave) roundedly emarginate, sides roundedly taper to posterior margin, which is convex; with scattered long hairs on margins.

Legs yellow brown, fairly elongate, pubescent.

Wing scale plainly longer than the pronotum.

Wings hyaline, costal veins yellowish, base blackish, over twice as long as the abdomen. In forewing, there is no definite median vein, but the cubitus branches in the middle into two branches, the upper branch may be considered the median vein; it is above the cubitus, parallel to the subcostal vein, is unbranched, and nearly reaches the apex of the wing; the lower branch branches to the lower margin, there being from this and direct from the cubitus 17 branches or subbranches to the lower margin of the wing. In hind wing, the median is more distinct, and runs parallel and close to the cubitus until near the apex of the wing, where it branches to the subcosta; the cubitus reaches the apex of the wing, and has 17 branches or subbranches to the lower margin (Figs. 1 and 2).

Abdomen dorsum same color as pronotum, ventrally lighter colored; with row of long hairs at base of each tergite. Cerci fairly elongate.

Measurements:

Length of entire winged adult: 9.50 mm.

Length of entire dealated adult: 5.0-5.5 mm.

Length of head: 1.50 mm.

Length of pronotum: 0.77 mm.

Length of anterior wing: 7.50 mm.

Length of hind tibia: 1.17 mm.

Diameter of eye: 0.32 mm.

Width of head: 1.40 mm.

Width of pronotum: 1.10-1.20 mm.

Width of anterior wing: 2.30 mm.

Prorhinotermes molinoides Snyder has a larger head than *P. inopinatus* Silvestri of the Samoan Islands, and a larger pronotum and different wing venation than *P. simplex* Hagen of the West Indies and Southern Florida; it differs from *P. oceanicus* Wasmann of the Cocos Islands in that *P. oceanicus* has 22 segments to the antennae and differs in wing venation. Wasmann states in an appendix (p. 160)¹ that *P. oceanicus* is the winged adult of *Leucotermes insularis* Wasmann from the Cocos Islands. Holmgren,² however, considers *oceanicus* to be in the genus *Prorhinotermes*.

Soldier.—Head yellow-brown, slightly darker anteriorly, much broader posteriorly than anteriorly, with few scattered long hairs in several transverse rows; fontanelle hyaline spot (distinct) on line at center of eye spot. Eye spot hyaline, large, suboval. Labrum yellow-brown, elongate, rather narrow and rounded at tip, with long hairs at apex.

Mandibles dark reddish-brown, heavier and broader even to apex (less taper) than in *P. simplex* Hagen.

¹ 1903. WASMANN, E. *Über einige Termiten von Oceanien*. Zool. Jahrb. Band 17, Heft 1, Anhang 10: 139-164.

² 1910. HOLMGREN, N. *Termitenstudien*. Kungl. Sv. Vet. Akad. Handling., Band 46, no. 6: 73, pl. 5, f. 11.

Antennae yellow-brown (broken), pubescent; third segment subclavate, longer than fourth, but slightly shorter than second segment; segments wedge-shaped.

Maxillary palpi very long and slender; as long as mandibles.

Pronotum slightly darker than head, broader than long, broadest near anterior margin, slightly concave, sides roundedly taper to posterior margin, which is nearly a straight line.

Legs light yellow-brown, fairly elongate and slender, pubescent.

Abdomen yellow-brown, with row of long hairs at base of each tergite.

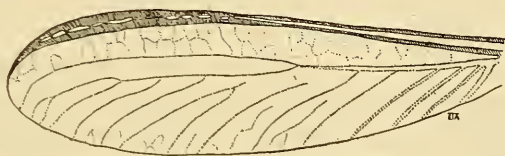


Fig. 1 fore wing

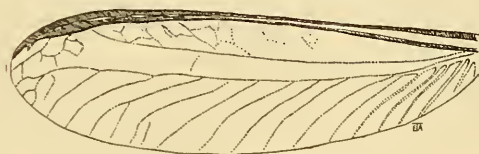


Fig. 2 hind wing

Measurements:

Length of entire soldier: 5.75–6.20 mm.

Length of head with mandibles: 2.90–3.00 mm.

Length of head without mandibles (to anterior): 1.90 mm.

Length of left mandible: 1.15–1.20 mm.

Length of pronotum: 0.70–0.80 mm.

Length of hind tibia: 1.20 mm.

Width of head (posteriorly where broadest): 1.60–1.65 mm.

Width of head (at anterior margin): 1.0–1.1 mm.

Width of pronotum: 1.20–1.30 mm.

Prorhinotermes molinoi Snyder has a larger head than *P. inopinatus* Silvestri and is longer than *P. simplex* Hagen.

Type locality. Largo Remo Island, Canal Zone, Panama, on the Atlantic Coast.

Described from a series of winged adults collected with soldiers and workers at the type locality by J. Zetek and I. Molino on August 31, 1923, in a hard, wet tree trunk on the ground. On the same day and on the same island winged adults, soldiers, and workers were found under the bark of a fallen coconut palm tree. I take pleasure in naming this termite after Dr. I. Molino, who has collected many interesting termites, and made valuable notes on their habits.

Type, *winged, male adult*.—Cat. No. 26756, U. S. N. M.; morphotype, soldier.