

## The Homopterous Genus *Mesohomotoma* (Psyllidae or Chermidae).

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The genus *Mesohomotoma* was erected in 1907<sup>1</sup> by Kuwamura for the species *M. camphorae*, prevalent in Formosa on the foliage of camphor trees. To this genus there should be referred, also, several other species previously or subsequently described in other genera. Froggatt described two species of *Tyora*,<sup>2</sup> one of which (*T. hibisci*) should certainly be referred to *Mesohomotoma*, while the other (*T. sterculiae*) belongs in still another genus, probably *Neocarsidara*. *Tyora indica* Crawford<sup>3</sup> also belongs in *Mesohomotoma*.

*Tyora* was erected by Walker<sup>4</sup> for the South Pacific species *T. congrua*, which is quite distinct from the other species referred to this genus. *Tyora congrua*, the type species, has a distinct pterostigma in the forewing, while *Mesohomotoma* species have none; *Tyora* has two pseudo-cross veins (callus), while *Mesohomotoma* has but one. In other respects, also, *Tyora* is very distinct, as in the less deeply cleft vertex.

*Udamostigma* was erected by Enderlein in 1910 with Froggatt's *Tyora hibisci* as type species. Later (1914) another species (new) was referred to this same genus. Both of these species should certainly be considered as congeneric with Kuwamura's *Mesohomotoma camphorae*, and inasmuch as this is the older of the two generic names, Enderlein's *Udamostigma* should be known as a synonym of the other. In wing venation, even to small details, and in characteristics of genital organs, these species are so similar that their congeneric relationships are unmistakable.

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Proc. Haw. Ent. Soc., VI, No. 1, August, 1925.

<sup>1</sup> Trans. Sapporo Nat. Hist. Soc., Vol. II, p. 180, 1907, "Die Psylliden Japans," by S. Kuwayama.

<sup>2</sup> Proc. Linn. Soc. New South Wales, 1901, pp. 286-291.

<sup>3</sup> Phil. Jr. Science, Vol. XV, pp. 159-160, 1919.

<sup>4</sup> Ins. Saund., Homoptera, p. 111.

## DESCRIPTION OF GENUS MESOHOMOTOMA.

Head very deeply cleft in front, the antennae attached to the apices on each side of the cleft and enhancing the birostrate appearance of the head; genal cones wanting. Vertex with a prominent deep sulcus on each side of median cleft, extending out toward base of antennae. Anterior ocellus at the base of the median cleft. Antennae slender, usually about half as long as forewing, or in some species longer.

Thorax slender, pronotum relatively long. Hind tibiae with a spur at base and several (usually five) spines at apex. Forewings long and large, usually more or less pointed at apex, membrane thin; pterostigma not present, the radius extending straight to margin; a pseudo-vein or callus between radius (radial sector) and media, joining latter at its point of forking.

Type of genus: *Mesohomotoma camphorae* Kuwayama.

## KEY TO SPECIES.

- A 1. Body greenish yellow or straw color, without distinct stripes on dorsum.
  - B 1. Stem of cubitus twice as long as stem of medio-cubital vein; latter much less than half as long as stem of radius before its furecation.....*M. camphorae* Kuwayama
  - B 2. Stem of cubitus only a little longer than stem of medio-cubital vein; latter more than half as long as stem of radius before its furecation.....*M. hibisc* Frogg.
- A 2. Body brownish or rusty in color, at least the head being brown; dorsum with several longitudinal stripes of a paler color.
  - B 1. Forewing with several conspicuous black spots along posterior margin.....*M. lutheri* Enderlein
  - B 2. Forewing without black spots on posterior margin, except one at tip of clavus.....*M. lineaticollis* Enderlein

*M. camphorae* Kuwayama.

Kuwayama—Sapporo Nat. Hist. Soc., Vol. II, p. 180, 1907.

This species is well figured and described by Kuwayama in the reference cited above. It is reported as abundant on camphor trees in Formosa.

**M. hibisci** (Froggatt).

*Tyora hibisci* Froggatt—Proc. Linn. Soc., New South Wales, 1901, pp. 286-291.

*Udamostigma hibisci* (Froggatt), Enderlein—Wissensch. Ergeb. d. Schw. Zool. Exped. nach Dem Kilimandjaro, Deutsch-Ostafrikas, 1905-1906, Hemiptera (Psyllidae), p. 138, 1910.

This species was described under the name *Tyora hibisci* by W. W. Froggatt on specimens collected in Brisbane, Queensland. That the species has a wider distribution, is indicated by the fact that specimens were collected at Suva, Fiji, in 1904, on *Hibiscus* foliage. These specimens were referred to me recently by the Hawaiian Sugar Planters' Association Experiment Station. Another specimen before me was taken by Koebele at New Caledonia, date not recorded. Probably the species has rather a wide distribution in the South Pacific, on *Hibiscus*. Froggatt gives a very good account of its life history and habits.

Enderlein, in 1910, erected a new genus for this species, apparently recognizing the fact that *Tyora congrua* is a very distinct type and not congeneric with Froggatt's species. To separate it generically, however, from *Mesohomotoma camphorae* is an error already pointed out above.

**M. lutheri** Enderlein.

*Udamostigma lutheri* Enderlein—Zool. Jahrb. 41, pp. 484-5, 1918.

*Tyora indica* Crawford—Philippine Jr. Science, XV, p. 159, 1919.

This species described by Enderlein in 1918 from specimens collected in Ceylon seems without doubt to be the same as *Tyora indica* Crawford, and as Enderlein's name has priority, the latter is sunk in synonymy.

There seems no good reason for holding either this species or *M. hibisci* Froggatt in a distinct genus as Enderlein has them, *Udamostigma* having nothing to separate it generically from *Mesohomotoma*.

This species, fully described in the references cited above, is apparently a widely distributed one, as it occurs in the South Pacific Islands, as well as in India and Ceylon. In the illustration of the wing of this species, as shown in the second citation above, the cross-vein (callus) was, by some oversight, omitted.

It is mentioned in the description, and should appear in the drawing. This species seems to be very close to *M. lineaticollis* Enderlein.

***M. lineaticollis* Enderlein.**

Enderlein—Ent. Mitteilungen, III, No. 7-8, July, 1914.

This species, also occurring in Formosa, is said by Enderlein to be very similar to *M. camphorae*, differing apparently in color, in minor venational characters of the forewing and in the smaller genitalia of the male.