



Pentatomoidea (Hemiptera: Heteroptera) wrongly labelled in Gay's "Atlas de la Historia Física y Política de Chile" (1854)

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Abstract

Some label mistakes in the "Atlas de la Historia Física y Política de Chile" of Claudio Gay (1854) are detected, explained, and corrected; the relationship of this situation and further new mistakes in the "Introducción a los insectos de Chile" of Peña (1987) are discussed.

Key words: Pentatomoidea, Pentatomidae, Acanthosomatidae, wrongly labelled, Chile

Resumen

Se explican y corrigen algunos errores de rotulación detectados en el Atlas de la Historia Física y Política de Claudio Gay (1854) y se discute la relación de éstos con nuevos errores en la Introducción a los insectos de Chile de Peña (1987).

Introduction

Our knowledge of the natural history of Chile is due primarily to two founding works: the "Saggio sulla storia naturale del Chili" of J. I. Molina (1872) and the "Historia Física y Política de Chile" of C. Gay; and among these the Gay's work is the most important for Hemiptera, especially for the heteropterans that have been studied by Spinola and Blanchard (1852).

Gay's work can be divided into two parts: the "Historia Física y Política de Chile"; in 8 tomes (zoology part) was contributed from the contributions of different specialists. And the "Atlas de la Historia Física y Política de Chile" with Gay's authorship of the illustrations of the "Historia Física y Política de Chile"; the Atlas is a much used text for common species identifications, especially for amateur collectors.

In the Pentatomoidea part of the Atlas I have found some mistakes in identification; these mistakes are not mentioned in the later papers about Gay's work (Stuardo 1954, Montero 1965). It is likely that these erroneously labelled illustrations are the reasons for some late misidentifications and confusions in the study of the Chilean Pentatomoidea. The purpose of this contribution is to clarify the wrongly identified species, and to avoid further confusions.

The mistakes in the Atlas are listed as follows:

Plate XXI [= Hemípteros Lámina 1; = Emipteros]

Fig. 4. *Pentatoma unidentatum* Spin. (currently *Oenopiella unidentata* (Spinola, 1852)). The specimen illustrated is not *O. unidentata*, and it is apparently other species; the pronotum shape and the connexivum edge are wrong. An explanation must be produced, because a less detailed of the figure may produce