6 Subfamily Orthotylinae

Tribe Halticini

Halticus apterus (L.)

Distribution (Map 39). Uhler (1878a) assumed he was giving the first North American records of this species (as Halticocoris pallicornis). Knight (1917a), however, pointed out that the common, native mirid H. bractatus Say [=citri (Ashmead)] has often been labeled H. apterus, and it appears that Uhler's specimens were misidentified. Uhler remarked that New World specimens were not coarsely punctate above as Fieber had noted for European H. apterus. He also said the specimens he examined from the United States had hemelytra "sprinkled with minute dots of prostrate silvery hairs," a character that fits H. bractatus or H. intermedius Uhler but not H. apterus (Knight 1941: 77, Henry 1983: 610). Therefore, Parshley's (1917) record from Patten, Maine, confirmed by Knight (1917a), should be considered the first valid Nearctic record for H. apterus. Knight (1923) listed it from "Canada" and (Knight 1941) specifically from Nova Scotia and Ontario; Larochelle (1984) recorded Quebec. Henry (1983) was unable to confirm a Wisconsin record reported by Akingbohungbe et al. (1972).