

2 Holarctic Miridae in North America

Review of Previous Work

The European hemipterist Carl Stål (1858) alluded to the faunal connection between Asia and North America, and O. M. Reuter (1891) listed Siberian species, reviewing their Old World distribution and noting whether they occurred in "America borealis." The North Americans A. Fitch (1858), L. Provancher (1872), and P. R. Uhler (1872, 1876) gave the first Nearctic records for a few Palearctic Miridae. Provancher's species, however, were described as new and only later were recognized as junior synonyms of European mirids. It was not until the Hungarian hemipterist G. Horváth visited and collected in the United States in 1907 that an analysis of Eurasian and North American faunal relationships was attempted. Horváth's (1908a, b) lists of species common to the Palearctic and Nearctic regions included several Miridae. Because this work was published in a journal Torre-Bueno (1908) considered inaccessible, he announced the papers to North American hemipterists and decried the perpetuation of errors that Horváth and others had corrected (Torre-Bueno 1908; 1909a, b; 1913).

Horváth's findings were important for eliminating many records based on misidentifications; calling attention to the tendency of North American workers to assume that some common New World species