

## A Report on the Earwig *Doru aculeatum aculeatum* (Scudder), from a Marsh in Northern Illinois

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*Doru aculeatum aculeatum* (Scudder) is one of the three earwigs found in northern Illinois, other than adventives, of which *Doru lineare* (Escholtz) has been reported at Urbana on cabbage shipped from Texas. *Labia minor* (Linn.) is another of the three, and I have found it flourishing at Ottawa. One evening (June 28, 1936) I took twenty specimens at a light, and I have found six specimens since then.

*Doru aculeatum aculeatum* (Scudder) is a distinctly marsh species. It was reported by Thomas (1876) from northern Illinois, but has not been taken from the State since then, as far as is known.

I have taken this species in and near a marsh across the Illinois River from Starved Rock State Park. Being permanently wet, but shallow, this marsh is an ideal location for most prairie marsh fauna and flora. It is a typical virgin marsh for Illinois. In the deeper portions is a good stand of Blue Flag, mixed in with Cat-tail.

Most of the specimens were taken by Mr. Charles J. Alikonis of Ottawa and myself from under boards and logs along the border. They became more common on approach to the border, and were found very common on it. None were found over fifty feet away.

In early summer specimens were found on the blossoms of the blue flag and crawling over the other vegetation. They seemed to be feeding on either the pollen or the corolla of the blue flag. When disturbed they "dropped", this making them very hard to collect, especially since the water and mud were almost to one's knees in places.

This species is nocturnal in habit. Specimens kept in captivity were very active at night, but hid when light was placed upon them, as they also did during daylight. They make full use of the stink-glands on top of the abdomen, creating quite an odor when a hundred or so are concentrated and disturbed.

All of the specimens taken are brachypterous, and in all those examined the wings are much aborted. The size varies in the male from 13.25 mm. to 20 mm., and in the female from 12 mm. to 16 mm., all measurements taken from the front of the head to the tip of the forceps. It is a queer fact that the larger males have the best-developed forceps, while the smaller ones invariably have slender ones, sometimes wholly untoothed. The females are very uniform.

Following is a record of the specimens taken:

(hibernating)

May 15, 1936	C. J. Alikonis.....	1 male	
Feb. 28, 1937	F. G. Werner.....	9 males,	10 fem.
	C. J. Alikonis.....	4 males,	17 fem.
Feb. 11, 1938	F. G. Werner.....	53 males,	42 fem.
Feb. 12, 1938	F. G. Werner.....	170 males,	260 fem.
	C. J. Alikonis.....	18 males,	27 fem.
Feb. 13, 1938	C. J. Alikonis.....	1 male	
Feb. 26, 1938	F. G. Werner.....	1 male	
(on Blue Flag, and crawling over vegetation)			
June 3, 1937	F. G. Werner.....	6 males	
	C. J. Alikonis.....	4 males,	2 fem.
June 13, 1937	F. G. Werner.....	7 males	

Many were seen dead, possibly due to the cold or to the fact that the land was burned over in the fall.

A short series was sent to Dr. Morgan Hebard for determination, and he verified it as this species.