CHAPTER 27

Pentacentrinae: Anomalous Crickets

This subfamily, which is small and largely tropical, is represented in the United States by a single species.

*Trigonidomimus*: Belfrages’ Cricket

Of the five species in this New World genus, only one occurs north of Panama.

**BELFRAGE’S CRICKET  *Trigonidomimus belfragei* MAP 27-1**

**Identification:** (Fig. 27-1) (5-7 mm) A small brown cricket that looks superficially like a sword-bearing cricket but has the antennae originating below the middle of the face (Fig. 27-2). The second tarsal segments are small and cylindrical (Fig. 27-3); the hind tibiae are slender and modestly spined; and the ovipositor is slender and straight (Fig. 27-4).

**Habitat:** Unknown; flies to light. The tarsi and ovipositor resemble those of ground dwelling species.

**Season:** Aug.-Oct.

**Song:** Unknown. Males of some species of anomalous crickets have female-like forewings and are mute.

**Similar species:** (1) Sword-tailed crickets—second tarsal segments pad-like (Fig. 21- ); ovipositor flattened and often curved. (2) Ground crickets—tibia robust with large spines (Fig. 21- ).

**Remarks:** This species is known from only four specimens, all female: two from Bosque County, Texas; one from Stillwater, Oklahoma; and one from Vera Cruz, Mexico. Because the records are so few and the habitat is unknown, the distribution of Belfrage’s crickets within the United States is highly uncertain.

**References:** Caudell 1912*, Hebard 1932.
Fig. 27-1. Belfrages’ Cricket (female)  
Trigonidomimus belfragei

Vertical line is actual body length

Fig. 27-2 antennal insertion

Fig. 27-3 hind tarsus

Fig. 27-4 ovipositor

Map 27-1