

Attraction of *Riptortus clavatus* (Thunberg) (Hemiptera: Alydidae) Males by Conspecific Females in Soybean Fields

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Three compounds emitted from males of the bean bug, *Riptortus clavatus* (Thunberg) have been identified as an aggregation pheromone to attract conspecific adults of both sexes and the 2nd-instar nymphs, by GC-EAD analyses of airborne volatiles and field data (Leal et al., 1995). Further it was presumed that those compounds were probably involved in sexual communication, even though a cue specific to sex attraction was not detected in the insect. Therefore we conducted an attraction experiment, using unmated adults to investigate the potential presence of sex attractant of the insect.

In order to collect adults of *R. clavatus*, the water traps with a separate sex of virgin females and males were installed in a soybean field. As a result, it was found that more number of females were attracted by males than by females. However the male trap attracted both females and males at the same rate. In the female trap, male were mainly attracted and females were also attracted in minor. In particular, more numbers of males were attracted by female traps, as compared to those by the male trap and in the control trap. It was suggested that females may have sex attractant.