

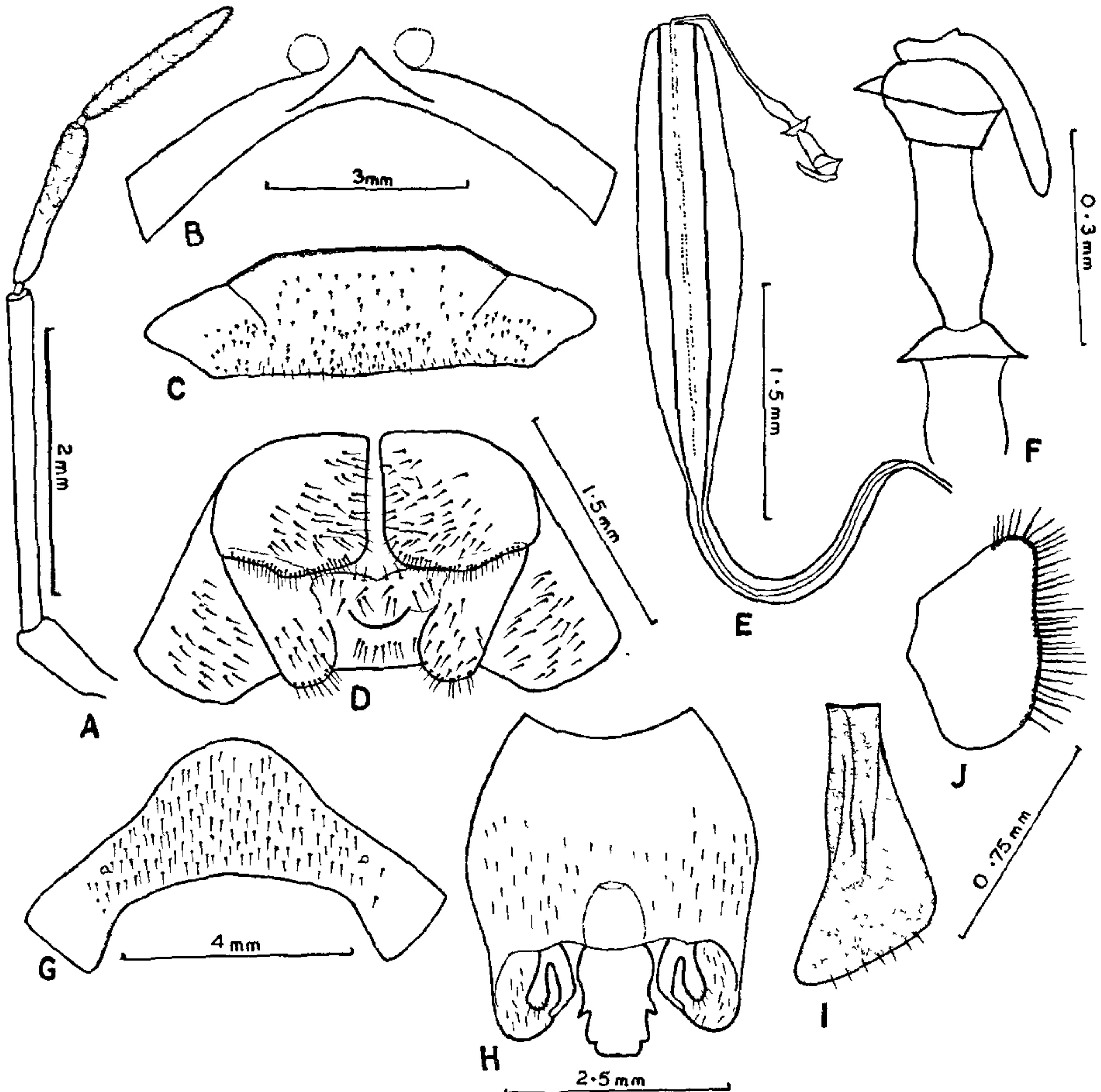
**DEGONETINI TRIB. N. (HETEROPTERA:
PENTATOMIDAE)**

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DISTANT¹ placed his genus *Degonetus* under Division Tropicoraria. The division was later recognised as tribe Tropicorni².

The genus *Degonetus* Distant possesses certain characters viz., deeply sulcated condition of mesosternum, abdominal venter basally with acute spine not extending beyond hind coxae; metasternal scent gland ostiole devoid of peritreme indistinct evaporatoria and 4-segmented antennae in both sexes, which refrain it from falling in any of the known tribes of the subfamily Pentatominae. This has necessitated the erection of a new tribe Degonetini. The new tribe is closely related to *Poecilotoma* group of Gross³, from



Figures 1A–J. *Degonetus serratus* Distant: A. Antenna, ♀; B. Abdominal spine, ♀; C. Last abdominal tergum, ♀; D. External genitalia, ♀; E. Spermatheca, ♀; F. Spermathecal bulb, ♀; G. Subgenital plate, ♂; H. Pygophore, ♂; I. Clasper, ♂; J. Pseudoclasper, ♂.

which it can be separated by its having acute spine on base of abdominal venter.

The new tribe is defined as follows:

Head distinctly wider than long; rostrum slender, 4-segmented, extending upto hind coxae; bucculae shorter than first rostral segment; antennae (figure 1A) 4-segmented in both sexes; pronotum with antero-lateral margins sinuate and dentate, humeral angles acutely produced; scutellum well developed, extending beyond middle of abdomen; mesosternum deeply sulcated medially; metasternal scent gland ostiole devoid of peritreme, evaporatoria indistinct; abdominal venter basally with an acute spine never extending beyond hind coxae (figure 1B). Female external genitalia (figure 1D) plate-like; spermatheca (figures 1E, F), bulb with tubular outgrowths, proximal part of sclerotised tube long and narrow. The tribe is represented by a single genus from India.

Type-genus: *Degonetus* Distant

Comments: The sulcated or carinated mesosternum and armed or unarmed conditions of abdominal venter are considered as tribal characters by almost all the recent workers. The sulcated mesosternum and armed abdominal venter has not yet been recorded in any of the known tribes of the subfamily Pentatominae.

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A NOTE ON CHLAMYDIAL MENINGOENCEPHALITIS IN CALVES

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MENINGOENCEPHALITIS in two young calves having central nervous system (CNS) disorders were proven to be due to chlamydial agent, for the first time in India. The disease and its manifestations were similar to those reported earlier as sporadic bovine encephalomyelitis (SBE)¹⁻³.

Two calves of 3 to 5 weeks of age, died after 7 and 10 days respectively, showing clinical signs of marked depression, staggering gait and paralysis of the hind quarters followed by ataxia and opisthotonus. Marked congestion was noticed during autopsy in the cerebellum and at the base of the brain along with an increased amount of turbid cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) containing flakes of fibrin. In addition to the brain lesions, there was marked oedema and congestion of the lungs with moderate areas of consolidation in the anterior lobes.

Microscopically, meninges showed marked engorgement and mononuclear cell infiltrations. Perivascular cuffings comprising of mononuclear cells were seen mostly in the cerebellum. Focal areas of necrosis and gliosis was evident in the cerebrum as well as cerebellum. Elementary bodies were demonstrated by Wolbach's Giemsa method of staining in mononuclear cells and neurons of the medulla, cerebellum and

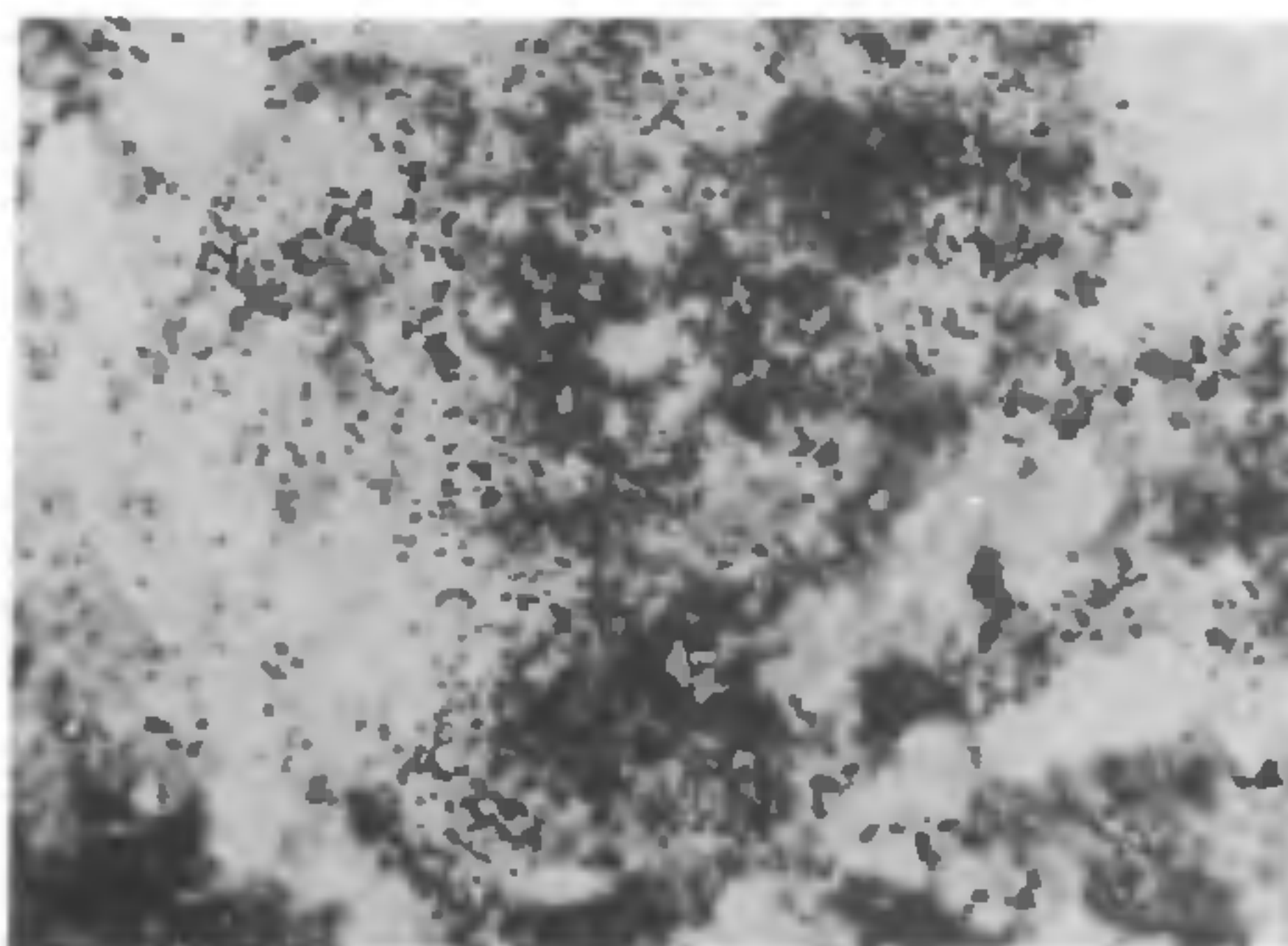


Figure 1. Chlamydial bodies in egg-yolk impression smear $\times 3000$.