

Abstract:

Dorso-abdominal scent glands (= DAGs) of larvae represent one of apomorphic characters of insects order Heteroptera. These glands can persist until adults in different taxa. The persistence of DAGs were proved in the members of the family Acanthosomatidae. The ontogenetic development of DAGs cuticular structures were studied in all stadia, from 1st larval instar to adults of acanthosomatid *Elasmucha ferrugata* (Fabricius, 1787). The study concerned external structures and sculptures associated with DAG ostiole and areas of their surfaces, as well as internal structures, shape of gland reservoir and number of conducting ductules of proper glandular units. The light microscope and stereomicroscope and scanning electron microscope were used for this comprehensive study.