

**External Morphology of Eggs of *Carpocoris pudicus* (Poda, 1761)
(Heteroptera, Pentatomidae)**

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ABSTRACT

The eggs of *Carpocoris pudicus* (Poda, 1761) were observed with light and scanning electron microscopes. Each female generally deposited 14 eggs (13-29) in a mass. The barrel-shaped eggs show a chorionic pattern resulting from irregular polygons that are delimited by chorionic spines. These arise from the surface and are connected with each other by somewhat flattened ridges arranged to form an irregular polygonal pattern. Large aeropyles are on the widened apices of the spines. The hatching line encircles the operculum. T-Shaped egg bursters are dark and sclerotized. They have 22-25 micropylar projections among the chorionic spines.

Key words: Egg shell, chorion, SEM, *Carpocoris pudicus*

INTRODUCTION

Egg surface structure of Heteroptera species including Pentatomidae has been reported by many authors (Heymons, 1906; Schumacher, 1917; Esselbaugh, 1946; Southwood, 1956; Puchkova, 1955, 1956, 1957, 1959, 1966; Hinton, 1981; Shuxhi, 1985; Vennison and Ambrose, 1990; Javahery, 1994; Baker and Brown, 1994; Bundy and McPherson, 1997; Neal and Bentz, 1997; Candan, 1997, 1998). The egg of the *Carpocoris pudicus* has been briefly described (Puchkova, 1961; Cobben, 1968) by use of a light microscope, but it requires further investigation. We examined the egg structure of *C. pudicus* (egg burster, micropylar processes, aeropyles, chorionic spines and polygonal pattern) in detail with a scanning electron microscope.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

C. pudicus was collected from Kalecik, Ankara in 1994. Fresh eggs were obtained from a colony maintained in breeding cages under laboratory conditions. For scanning