NOTE ON THE HABITAT OF THE PRESUMED LARVA OF
AUSTRONEURORTHUS (NEUROPTERA, NEURORTHIDAE)

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An Australian neurorthid larva was described by Riek (1970) from a specimen found in moist litter. This larva, tentatively identified as that of Austroneurorthus sp., was later found to be closely similar to the aquatic larva of the European Neurorthus fallax (Rambur) described by Zwick (1967) (Riek, 1974). Nothing further has been published on the habitat or relationships of the Australian forms.

I have recently examined several neurorthid larvae from Queensland and Victoria and the capture site of some of these leaves no doubt that the larvae are truly aquatic, and can occur in fast-flowing water. The Australian larvae are extraordinarily similar to Zwick's (1967) figures of Neurorthus: indeed, even positions and relative lengths of head and thoracic setae of a cleared Victorian larva correspond closely and Zwick's figures of head, thorax and their appendages could apply equally to this specimen from the Thomson River. Larval characters thus suggest an extremely close relationship between these two genera, which are separated in part because of their geographical ranges (Nakahara, 1958).

All larvae examined are large (more than 8 mm. body length) and, although these are clearly aquatic, nothing is known of the oviposition site of the adults or of the larval feeding habits.

RECORDS OF NEURORTHUS LARVAE
QUEENSLAND. 1 ex., Tinaroo Dam, 2 km on Mt. Edith Rd, 23 June 1971. E. F. Riek; 1 ex., Bunya Mts., Big Falls, 3300 ft, 4 July 1971, E. F. Riek (both in Australian National Insect Collection (ANIC)).

VICTORIA. 3 ex., U. Yarra River, McMahon's Creek, 1 October 1972 (ANIC); 1 ex., Upper Thomson River, Park Rd., (kick sample from large pebbles, small cobbles, some sandy patches under cobbles), 25 November 1976, J. D. Blyth; 3 ex. Ross Creek, N.E. of Jericho, 14 August 1977, J. D. Blyth (all in National Museum of Victoria).

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References
Bibliography of the Neuropterida

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