

MAY, 1927

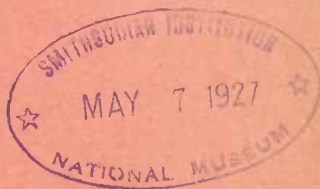
ENTOMOLOGICAL NEWS

Vol. XXXVIII

No. 5



JAMES H. B. BLAND,
1833-1911



CONTENTS

Gunder—New Transition Forms or "abs" and their Classification (Lepid., Rhopalocera)	129
Blatchley—Some New Species of Coleoptera from Indiana and Florida	139
Entomological Scrap-books of Dr. C. V. Riley	144
Howard—Concerning Phoresy in Insects	145
Rehn—A New Generic Name for Enkrates of Burr (Dermaptera: Chelisochidae)	148
Fletcher—Undescribed Pselaphidae Collected by Dr. J. C. Bradley in Panama (Coleoptera)	149
Frost—Beneficial Insects Trapped in Bait-pails	153
Rohwer—Should Insect Collections be Passed on to Individuals?	157
Entomological Expedition in Patagonia	158
Townsend—Prodiaphania, New Name for Diaphania Macquart (1843) Preoccupied (Dipt., Muscoidea)	159
Entomological Literature	159
Review—Revista Chilena de Historia Natural	164

PHILADELPHIA, PA.
THE ACADEMY OF NATURAL SCIENCES.
Logan Square

Entered at the Philadelphia, Pa., Post Office as Second Class Matter.
Acceptance for mailing at the special rate of postage prescribed for in Section 1103,
Act of October 3, 1917, authorized January 15, 1921.

Some New Species of Coleoptera from Indiana and Florida.

By W. S. BLATCHLEY, Indianapolis, Indiana.

In my collecting in recent years at Royal Palm Park in extreme southern Florida and other points in that State, as well as in southern Indiana, a number of apparently undescribed species of beetles have been taken, eight of which are characterized and named in the present paper. The types of all are in my private collection. The sequence followed is that of the Leng "Catalogue of the Coleoptera of America North of Mexico."

Family ORTHOPERIDAE.

Corylophodes flavo-ocellus sp. nov.

Rather broadly oval, convex. Above chocolate-brown, strongly shining, the middle of elytra with a large, rounded, common, sutural, yellowish spot; pronotum with a broad, pale, reflexed, hyaline border; head, antennae and legs dull straw-yellow; under surface reddish-brown, shining. Antennae, as in other members of the genus, 11-jointed, the five joints between the third and basal one of club short, gradually wider. Pronotum with front margin broadly rounded, concealing the greater part of head, its disk and that of elytra impunctate. Tibiae and hind margin of each ventral segment ciliate with a row of stiff seta-like hairs. Length .8 mm.

Royal Palm Park, Florida, April 7. Described from seven specimens beaten from the flowering branches of cabbage palmetto, *Sabal palmetto* (Walt.). Allied to *C. impunctatus* Casey, but that species is more narrowly oval, devoid of yellowish elytral spot, and with ventrals not ciliate. *Type* a male, Royal Palm Park, Florida, April 7, 1925.

Orthoperus aeneocollis sp. nov.

Broadly oval, convex. Head and pronotum a polished purplish-bronze; elytra black with a bluish tinge; antennae brownish, paler at base; legs and under surface piceous-brown. Head with vertex minutely sparsely punctate, its front concave, the clypeal suture deep; clypeus with a low, median, transverse tubercle. Pronotum twice as wide as long, sides margined, broadly curved, basal margin bisinuate, disk minutely sparsely punctate. Elytra conjointly broadly oval, suture not margined, disk distinctly, rather coarsely, thickly, shallowly punctate. Length .8 mm.

Royal Palm Park, Florida, December 7-March 29. Three specimens beaten from fallen dead leaves of the royal palm, *Oreodoxa regia* H.B.K., in the dense hammock on Paradise Key. *Type* from Royal Palm Park, March 29, 1925. The handsome purplish-bronzed head and pronotum, tuberculate clypeus and rather strong punctuation of elytra distinguish this from other known species of *Orthoperus*.

Family ELATERIDAE.

The genus *Melanotus* is represented in southern Florida by numerous species, several of which are as yet undescribed. Examples of all Florida species on hand were sent, in 1921, to R. H. Van Zwaluwenburg, then connected with the U. S. Bureau of Entomology, who was at that time making a critical study of this difficult genus, based mainly on the male genitalia. He returned them with the statement that three of them were very probably new species. A lack of time on my part has since prevented their description. They are therefore named in the present paper.

Melanotus simulans sp. nov.

Elongate, rather slender, sides subparallel. Pale chestnut-brown, shining, everywhere clothed with rather long, prostrate, whitish hairs. Antennae reaching middle of mesosternum, joint 2 subglobose, one-half as long as 3, the latter narrower and slightly shorter than 4. Head, excluding eyes, subquadrate, coarsely, rugosely punctate, front of clypeus broadly rounded.

Pronotum one-third longer than wide, sides parallel, hind angles unicarinate; disk notably convex, minutely, very sparsely punctate, the punctures separated by three or four times their own diameters, each bearing a whitish prostrate hair. Elytra at base not wider than pronotum, thence evidently, but feebly, tapering to apex, disk with rows of close-set rather fine punctures; intervals feebly convex, twice as wide as the striae punctures, each with two rows of minute punctures, from which arise the prostrate hairs. Ventrals finely, evenly aciculate-punctate. Length 9.2—9.4 mm.

Described from two males (one *type*) in the author's collection, taken at Dunedin, Florida, March 15, 1918. Of it Van Zwaluwenburg wrote: "This might be mistaken for *M. angustatus* (Erh.) were it not for the parallel sides of pronotum and the distinct genitalia, which are similar to, but longer than those of *M. morosus* Cand."

Melanotus obscuratus sp. nov.

Elongate, rather robust. Dark chestnut-brown, shining; antennae, pronotum, legs and base of elytra dull red or reddish-brown. Antennae reaching middle coxae, joint 2 subglobose, 3 one-half longer than 2, the two united two-thirds the length of 4. Head coarsely, densely, rugosely punctate; clypeus concave, its front margin broadly rounded.

Pronotum one-half longer than wide, sides parallel from base to apical third, thence feebly convergent or curved to apex; disk at middle strongly convex with sides declivent, finely and sparsely punctate, the punctures separated by twice their diameters; hind angles prolonged, not carinate, their tips truncate. Elytra as wide at base as pronotum, sides subparallel to apical third, thence feebly converging and slightly curved to apex; disk with rows of rather coarse, close-set punctures; intervals flat, only one-half wider than strial punctures, each with two rows of minute punctures, each bearing a rather short, fine yellowish hair. Under surface finely and sparsely punctate, each puncture bearing a prostrate whitish hair. Length 10 mm.

Type a male taken at Ormond, Florida, April 13, 1913. This was returned by Van Zwaluwenburg without comment and labelled "new species."

Melanotus piceatus sp. nov.

Elongate, robust for the genus. Piceous-brown, coarsely clothed with whitish hairs, these longer and prostrate on pronotum, shorter and inclined on elytra; legs and antennae a paler reddish-brown. Antennae reaching middle coxae, joint 2 subglobular, one-half as long as 3, the latter slender, subclavate, as long as 4. Head coarsely, densely rugosely punctate; front of clypeus very broadly rounded or subtruncate.

Pronotum one-fourth longer than wide, sides subparallel, feebly curved near apex; hind angles prolonged, slightly divergent and with a rather long and prominent median carina; disk coarsely and evenly punctate, the punctures dense on sides, on middle separated by more than their own diameters. Elytra as wide at base as pronotum, thence evidently feebly converging to apex; strial punctures of disk relatively small, separated by their own diameters; intervals flat, twice as wide as strial punctures, each with two irregular rows of minute hair-bearing punctures. Punctures of the under surface rather sparse and moderate in size, those of the last two ventrals elongate, coarse and crowded. Length 14—15 mm.

This is a rather common species about Dunedin, Florida, in spring, occurring on flowers of huckleberry and other low herbage and beneath pine blocks and other cover. Taken in copulation April 22. Superficially it resembles our common northern *M. fissilis* Say, but the pronotum is distinctly longer with sides more parallel, and disk more finely punctate. *Type* a male, taken at Dunedin, Florida, March 17, 1922.

In his notes commenting on the species of *Melanotus* sent him, Mr. Van Zwaluwenburg wrote: "I am inclined to think *M. depressus* and *M. parampunctatus* synonyms. The type of the latter is a female, of *depressus*, a male. The separating differences as stated in the original descriptions are apparently sexual." Both were described from Pennsylvania and on the same page¹ by Melsheimer, and if synonyms, the name *depressus* has priority.

Family COCCINELLIDAE.

Scymnus pelli sp. nov.

Elongate-oval, convex. Black, moderately shining, thickly pubescent with short, stiff inclined yellow hairs; head, antennae, legs and two cross-bars on each elytron yellow; these bars widely separated, one extending from near the basal third of suture obliquely to near humerus, its outer end somewhat widened; the other on apical fourth, transverse, its inner end not reaching suture and widened to form a club-like mark or cross-bar; under surface piceous, last two ventrals reddish-yellow. Metacoxal line forming an oblique curve to the first ventral suture and joining the latter. Length 1.3 mm.

Type a male, swept from roadside herbage at Royal Palm Park, Florida, April 2, 1925. Belongs to Horn's group A² but differs from all other described members of the group in the position and form of the yellow markings of elytra.

Family CHRYSOMELIDAE.

In 1824 Thomas Say described³ a *Colaspis 6-notata* and mentioned it as "inhabiting the United States and found in considerable numbers on the common Juniper in July." Say's

¹Proc. Acad. Nat. Sci. of Philadelphia, II, 1844, p. 151.

²Trans. Amer. Ent. Soc., XXII, 1895, p. 87.

³Journ. Acad. Nat. Sci. of Philadelphia, III, 1824, p. 445; *ibid*, Leconte ed. II, 1859, 213.

species is listed in the Leng Catalogue as *Paria canella ser-notata* (Say). It occurs in numbers on Juniper in both Indiana and Florida, is not variable in color, occurs only on Juniper and, in my opinion, is a distinct and valid species. In recent years I have taken on Juniper in southern Indiana another form which, while resembling somewhat in color and markings the *ser-notata* of Say, differs widely in the sculpture of the pronotum and other characters, and which I now describe as

***Paria juniperi* sp. nov.**

Oblong-oval, strongly convex. Head and pronotum reddish-brown, the former often with a vague, median, darker spot. Elytra dull yellow, each with three more or less distinct piceous spots; the basal one oblong, placed near and within the umbone; the others submedian and subparallel, sometimes coalescent, the apex of the inner one projecting behind the other; legs, under surface and basal half of antennae pale reddish-brown, the terminal antennal segments fuscous. Head finely, sparsely, rather unevenly punctate, the front with a short, median sulcus.

Pronotum three-fifths wider than long, side margins broadly curved, front angles obtuse, hind ones rounded; disk everywhere, except on lower flanks and near apex, deeply, coarsely, longitudinally striate-punctate. Elytra with nine rows of rather small punctures, these more or less evanescent on sides and near apex. Under surface sparsely, finely, unevenly punctate. Length 2.8—3 mm.

Crawford and Harrison Counties, Indiana, August 30-September 1. Frequent on Juniper on high wooded slopes near Wyandotte Cave. The sculpture of the pronotum recalls that of *Metachroma quercata* Fab., though the striae are much more coarse. In *P. ser-notata* (Say), the pronotum is finely and very sparsely punctate, and the lower surface of the body is in great part black. *Type* a male taken in Crawford County, Indiana, September 1, 1923. *Paratype* in collection of the Brooklyn Museum, Brooklyn N. Y. The genus *Paria* is sadly in need of revision, several of the forms as *sellata*, *opacicollis* and *ser-notata*, treated by Leng and others as varieties of *canella* Fab., having a distinct host plant and varying little if any in distinctive color and sculptural characters.

USNM
Paratype
54040

***Aphthona schaefferi* sp. nov.**

Oblong-oval, convex. Color a nearly uniform testaceous or straw-yellow, moderately shining, the last antennal segment alone fuscous. Antennae slender, two-thirds as long as body, joints 2—4 subequal, each slightly shorter than 5—8, which are also subequal, pubescent and feebly clavate, 9—11 thicker, forming a loose club, 11 slightly longer than 10, its tip obtusely pointed.

Pronotum subquadrate, convex, very minutely and sparsely punctate; side margins broadly curved, feebly reflexed, slightly angulate at apical fourth and again near base. Elytra one-third wider at base than pronotum, conjointly elongate-oval; sides parallel to apical third, thence broadly rounded to apex; umbones small but distinct; disk of each elytron with nine rows of evident but small shallow punctures, these evanescent toward apex, the sutural row forking near base; intervals flat, smooth. Ventrals each with a transverse row of very fine punctures, each puncture bearing a slender prostrate hair. Length 2.1—2.3 mm.

Royal Palm Park, Florida, March 30, 1925. Described from 11 specimens taken by sweeping flowers of herbage along the margins of swales on Long Pine Key. It is evidently allied to the Texan *A. socia* Horn, but is larger, with pronotum not wider than long and with elytral punctures in distinct striae. Named in honor of Chas. Schaeffer of Brooklyn, New York, who, by his intensive and critical studies of *Donacia* and other genera of Chrysomelidae, has done much to advance our knowledge of this interesting family. *Type*, a male from Royal Palm Park, Florida.

Entomological Scrap-books of Dr. C. V. Riley.

Mrs. C. V. Riley, widow of Dr. Riley, predecessor of Dr. L. O. Howard as chief entomologist of the U. S. Dept. of Agriculture, has donated to the library of the National Museum the scrap-books of economic entomology which were kept by her husband in the period of his activity from 1865 to 1894. These volumes about one hundred in number contain many articles of great historical interest. In giving these books to the museum, Mrs. Riley wished to have them housed in the same place as the Riley collection of insects. (*Science*, Mar. 18, 1927.)