

## NOTES ON THE CURCULIONOIDEA II

20. A contribution to the knowledge of the Curculionoidea

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Since the publication of the last notes, additional information on several species has come to light. Notes on some additional species have also been included. I am indebted to Miss Rose E. Warner of the National Museum, who made additional examples of *Piscatopus* available several years ago, and to Dr. Fred Truxal of the Los Angeles County Museum, who made library facilities available. (ELS) refers to E. L. Sleeper Collections; DGK, to David G. Kissinger; (USNM), to United States National Museum.

### BRENTIDAE

Two examples of the scarce *Ulocerus sordidus* Sharp, described from northwestern Panama, were collected at Santo Domingo, Costa Rica, V-15-46, ELS, (ELS), from beneath the bark of logs near the edge of the beach. A single pair was found. This species was previously recorded, with some question, from Mexico (Blackwelder, 1947).

Dr. David G. Kissinger has sent a pair of *Taphroderes mexicana* Sharp from Coyame, Cate-meco in Southern Vera Cruz, Mexico, VI-54, DGK, (ELS). With these was an undescribed *Abactrus* which I take great pleasure in naming after the collector.

#### **Abactrus kissingeri**, new species

Figures 4 and 9

*Female*.—Elongate, very cylindrical; derm black, with elytra deep reddish black; glabrous and feebly alutaceous. *Rostrum* slender, feebly dilated apically, more than half as long as prothorax (7:11), feebly curved; smooth, minutely punctate and finely transversely wrinkled in front of antennal insertion, more coarsely punctured behind antennal insertion, the latter at basal third. Antennae rather long and loosely articulated; first segment nearly as long as following three combined, segments 2-6 rounded, 7-8 larger, oval and slightly compressed, 9-10 quadrate, 11 elongate and acuminate, as long as preceding 2 segments combined (3:1:1:1:1.4:1.3:1.4:1.4:2:2:4); segments 9-11 strongly compressed, densely setose laterally only, the remaining segments with a few scattered lateral setae; all segments moderately alutaceous. *Head* flattened, triangular from dorsum, punctures of front and vertex as on base of rostrum; head constricted some distance behind eyes into a short cylindrical neck. Eyes rounded, feebly convex, finely granulate. *Prothorax* elongate (11.3:5), cylindrical in basal third then strongly compressed laterally in remaining two-thirds; a raised carina behind apical margin emarginate at middle, laterally directed posteriorly becoming evanescent in compressed lateral area; pronotum minutely punctured and with a faint groove in apical two-thirds, groove not attaining raised apical carina. *Elytra* elongate, almost 4 times longer than broad (17:4.5), striae one very deep, without striae punctures, remainder of elytra nonstriate, but with very fine, widely separated striae punctures; apical emargination broad, rather prominent. *Ventral* side very convex with a few scattered coarse punctures most of which are lateral. None of the ventral sternites caniculate or sulcate at middle; first abdominal sternite with a very feeble, shallow fovea at base between coxae, 2d abdominal sternite with a prominent, transverse oval raised area which is closely, coarsely punctured at hind margin, 3-4 subequal, together as long as fifth, fifth with a broad median transverse depression; hind margin feebly arcuate. Legs short, very robust. Femora very stout, fore a little stouter, all unarmed. Tibiae short, stout, and only about half as long as femora, fore tibiae with four acute spines at apex, middle and hind tibiae with only two acute spines. Tarsi elongate in proportion to femora and tibiae, all compressed laterally, the middle and hind tarsi more strongly so; third segment cavernous, exposing true 4th segment; fore tarsi with first segment slightly longer than second, last segment very long and slender; middle and

hind tarsi with first segment very elongate, longer than following two combined, second and third subequal, last segment long, cylindrical, as long as preceding two combined. Length from fore margin of eye to apex of elytra 5.7 mm; width of prothorax at widest part 0.75 mm.

*Holotype* no. 71. Female. Coyame, Catemeco, Vera Cruz, Mexico, VI-54, DGK, (ELS), a unique.

*A. kissingeri* is more closely related to *A. championi* than to *A. sahlbergi*, from which it may be separated by the following key:

- 1. Elytra with two vague fasciae, apices yellowish and the apical emargination scarcely present. . . . . *sahlbergi* Sharp
- 1'. Elytra without fasciae, unicolorous; apical emargination prominent. . . . . 2
- 2. Pronotum without groove; pronotum and elytra without punctation; apical emargination less prominent; Panama. . . . . *championi* Sharp
- 2'. Pronotum with groove; pronotum and elytra with minute punctures; apical emargination very strong; Mexico. . . . . *kissingeri*, n. sp.

It would be interesting to know for certain the sex of the type of *A. championi* Sharp. Sharp states, "It is no doubt of the male sex; the antennae have much setosity on the lower surface." However, he states in the discussion following the original description with regard to the abdominal sternites, ". . . the hind margin of the prominent part porous on the middle." The latter is a characteristic of the females of both *Abactus* and the closely related genus *Taphroderes* Schönherr. The males of all species of *Taphroderes* examined have the "porous" area divided and in a V-shape. No males of *Abactus* have been seen.

CURCULIONIDAE

*Brachyderinae*

**Piscatopus**, new genus (Tanymecini)

Body small, elongate; vestiture consisting of overlapping scales and coarse, recumbent setae. *Rostrum* short, much broader at base than long, sides convergent from eyes to apex; alae not noticeably dilated; nasal plate absent; mentum large and broad; mandibular scar conspicuous. Scrobes deep, linear, directed beneath and scaly; apical half visible from dorsum, upper edge sharp ending in a prominent tooth at lower angle of eye. Scape straight, when in scrobe not surpassing a line drawn vertically through middle of eye; funicle and club together longer than scape. *Head* slightly convex, continuous with rostrum, the outline of both a feeble arc from apex of rostrum to anterior margin of prothorax; eyes very widely separated, moderately convex, lateral, prominent from above; with marginal groove on dorsal arc. Prothorax much broader than long, sides strongly arcuate, neither apex nor base constricted; ocular vibrissae present, but feeble; ocular lobes absent. Scutellum broad, flattened and triangular. Hind wings absent. *Elytra* oblong, longer than broad, slightly wider than prothorax; humeral angles absent; striae with a row of punctures, 10th abbreviated, absent in basal third. *Ventral side* with fore coxae separated by one-third to one-half their width by prosternum (fig. 8), middle coxae separated by more than one-half their width, rear coxae separated by twice their width. Side pieces of mesosternum unequal, metepisternal suture not visible, metasternum between middle and rear coxae slightly longer than second abdominal segment, very broad and truncate; first abdominal suture arcuate at middle, first abdominal segment longer than 2d + 3d, 2d longer than 3d + 4th, 3d and 4th subequal, 5th a little shorter than 2d. Legs with front femora normal; all tibiae slender, anterior not denticulate within; apical spinules short and acute; fore and middle tibiae mucronate, hind tibiae with a few longer spines at inner apical angle; cotyloid surface of all tibiae terminal and scaly. Tarsi narrow, elongate, the 3d segment feebly bilobed. Claws free and divergent.

*Genotype*.—*Piscatopus griseus*, new species.

*Piscatopus* should be placed in the Tanymecini of the Brachyderinae next to *Elissa* Casey (1888:271). It will key to *Isodacrys* Sharp in our generic keys by virtue of the separated front coxae and the absent humeral angles. However, it is closely related to *Elissa* which does not actually have the front coxae contiguous, as indicated by Casey (1888, 271), but narrowly separated in most specimens (180 of 221 examples of *E. laticeps*) examined (fig. 7). *Piscatopus* can be separated from *Elissa* by the former's having the front coxae separated by the prosternum



(fig. 8), the 10th elytral striae absent in basal third, lacking tumid area in front of eyes and the smaller mandibles. In *Elissa* the prosternum does not intervene between the front coxae, the 10th striae is complete, occasionally a little weak, from base to apex, a tumid area in front of eyes and has rather large conspicuous mandibles. *Piscatopus* differs from *Isodacrys* in the shorter, very broad rostrum, widely separated eyes, nonswollen front femora, and nondenticulate front tibiae.

***Piscatopus griseus*, new species**

Figures 2, 3, and 8

*Female*.—Elongate-oval, strongly convex; densely clothed throughout with uniform gray scales and short coarse white recumbent setae; derm black, antennae and legs reddish brown. *Rostrum* very short and broad (3.75 long:6.2 wide); dorsum slightly convex between antennal insertion, continuous with front when fully clothed with scales, when denuded dorsum slightly concave with an elongate, narrow, rather shallow fovea and lateral carinae which are divergent from scrobes. Antennae with funicle and club somewhat longer than scape (5.7:4); scape straight, attaining middle of eye, 1st funicular segment robust, almost as long as 2d + 3d, 2d elongate, longer than 3d, 4th and 5th equal, 6th and 7th subequal, each slightly longer than 5th and gradually widening; club oval, acuminate and sparsely clothed. *Head* moderately convex; derm as on rostrum, densely closely punctured, punctures at times coalescent; eyes separated by a little less than length of prothorax at middle (5.75:6.75) moderately convex, coarsely granulated, readily visible from dorsum, circular in lateral aspect; marginal groove distinct only on dorsal arc. *Prothorax* broader than long (9.3:6.75), sides rather evenly arcuate, apical and basal margins truncate, disc feebly convex in lateral aspect; derm very minutely, densely punctured. Scutellum broad, flattened, triangular and densely scaly. *Elytra* oblong, longer than broad (19:12); striae not impressed, striae punctures small, separated by more than twice their diameter, completely obscured by the scaly vestiture; intervals broad, flattened, subequal, confusedly punctured with minute, closely placed punctures and a single row of larger setiferous punctures, the short recumbent setae in a single row on each interval. *Ventral side* clothed as dorsum, first abdominal segment strongly convex transversely, a little shorter than 2d + 3d + 4th, (segments 4:2.7:8:8:2.3). Legs clothed as body. Tarsi elongate, posterior tarsi with 1st and 2d segments equal, 3d slightly longer, 4th nearly as long as preceding three; anterior tarsi shorter, first segment almost one-half longer than 2d, 3d little longer than 2d, 4th slightly longer than 1st and 2d. Claws completely free and widely divergent. Length 4.7 mm, width 2.1 mm.

*Male*.—Differs from the female in more slender form, the less inflated elytra, and the structure of the ventral abdominal segments; the first abdominal segments flattened laterally and a little concave at middle. Length 3.5 mm, width 1.5 mm.

*Type locality*.—Redford, Presidio Co., Texas, other locality, Presidio, Presidio Co., Texas.

*Type material*.—Holotype no. 68, ♀, Redford, Presidio Co., Texas, VII-20-45, H. F. Smith, (ELS); allotype, ♂, Presidio, Texas, X-28-44, J. H. Russell, (USNM); 4 paratypes as follows: 1 ♀, same data as holotype, 1 ♂, same data as allotype, (ELS); 1 ♂, 1 ♀, same data as allotype, (USNM). The paratypes vary little from the holotype and allotype other than by size, length 4.0-4.3 mm, width 1.8-2.0 mm.

The material from Presidio was found on the foliage of *Larrea divaricata* Cav.

*Alophinae*

A long series of *Lepidophorus setiger* Hamilton was found beneath recently cut beech limbs on a hillside near the entrance to Camp Wyandot, along Clear Creek, in Hocking Co., Ohio, V-27-57. The only other example known from Ohio was collected further up Clear Creeks XI-1-49, NJ & ELS, from beneath a rock.

A single example of *Plinthodes foveirostris* (Chittenden) was taken in Hocking Co. (Ash Cave), IX-11-54, R. D. Alexander and ELS, (ELS). Previous records for this weevil were from much further south in Virginia, North Carolina, and Tennessee. The single example was found late at night crawling through forest litter beneath predominantly hemlock cover.

*Magdalinae*

When the description of *Magdalis lecontei decepta* Sleeper was published (1955b: 158) a typographical error occurred. The heading for the description should have read "*Magdalis*

*lecontei decepta*, Sleeper, new subspecies." In the discussion of the subspecies it was properly noted as a subspecies. (This note has been previously sent to another journal, but in as much as a two-year period has elapsed since submission, I am adding it to this note to correct the error before a longer period elapses.)

Since the publication of the description of *Magdalis hockingensis* Sleeper (1955a: 56), a third example of this species has been collected. It is smaller than either the holotype (ELS no. 44) or paratype, measuring only 2.6 mm, width 1.0 mm. It was collected from the same tree as the paratype, and only 300 ft from the tree from which the holotype was collected. It bears the data Hocking Co., Ohio, V-27-57, ELS, (ELS).

#### *Cryptorhynchinae*

A single example of *Tyloderma foveolata* Say was collected at Mogone, Oaxaca, Mexico, III-13-46, ELS, (ELS), thus extending the range of this species much further south in Mexico than previously reported.

Two examples of *Gerstaeckeria fasciata* Pierce, known previously only from a unique type, have been collected; one specimen from Key Largo, Florida, V-1-53, NJ & ELS, (ELS), taken at light; the second example, Monroe Co., Florida, V-8-57, R. D. Alexander and ELS, (ELS), taken from beneath prostrate *Opuntia* sp. on Cape Sable. *G. fasciata* is somewhat divergent from the other forms occurring in eastern United States, leading the author to believe that perhaps it has been introduced into Florida, perhaps from Yucatan or Mexico proper. The type was from Buck Key, Florida.

#### *Rhynchophorinae*

##### *Yuccaborus* LeConte (Sipalini)

The late L. L. Buchanan expressed (in litt.) the opinion that in the genus *Yuccaborus* LeConte there is probably only a single species *frontalis* (LeConte) with a race *grossus* Casey; *lentiginosus* Casey being a smaller, more finely punctate form of the latter.

Recently, I have had the opportunity to study a large series of this genus. As a result of this study I feel that in the United States there are two species, *frontalis* (LeConte) and *grossus* Casey. They may be separated as follows:

1. Shining, reddish black with the punctuation of the upper surface fine; elytral striae feebly impressed, strial punctures smaller and more widely separated, elytral intervals appearing flat; spermatheca as in figure 5; range California, (western and south western Mojave Desert and adjacent canyons and valleys) . . . *frontalis* (LeConte)
- 1'. Dull, opaque black, punctures of upper surface coarser, deeper, more closely placed; elytral striae deeply impressed, strial punctures coarse, deep more or less rectangular, elytral intervals appearing more elevated; spermatheca as in figure 6; range southern Texas (Brownsville to El Paso), southern New Mexico, and southern Arizona . . . . . *grossus* Casey

The shining black coloration of *frontalis* is very noticeable and by this alone it can be separated readily from *grossus* in collections. *Y. lentiginosus* is nothing more than a form of *grossus*.

*Y. grossus* represents the western terminus of a cline of size, *lentiginosus* the eastern end. The pale spotting mentioned by Casey can be found in individual examples throughout the cline. The size of *grossus* increases from the east to the west. Largest examples seen (18 mm) were from southern Arizona (Baboquivari Mts.). A single male example, apparently *grossus* was collected at La Milla, Sierra de Juarez, Baja California, VIII-2-58, ELS, (ELS). This is not surprising as many of the weevils from that area are closely related to those of the Santa Rita and Huachuca Mts. of Arizona.

#### *Cossoninae*

A single example of *Eucoptus depressus* Wollaston was collected on Big Pine Key, Florida, V-1-53, NJ & ELS, (ELS), from beneath a leaf sheath of Royal Palm. Only a single example was found; an intensive search of numerous other leaf sheaths was fruitless. *Eucoptus depressus* was described from the province of Rio de Janeiro, Brasil and was reported by Buchanan (1947: 50) from numerous localities in Cuba, as well as from Montserrat, and Nicaragua. This species is 1.2-2.4 mm long; dark reddish brown; the funicle 7-segmented; elytral striae well-defined

with small, round punctures. The male has a small tubercle on midline of first abdominal sternite, and a transversely arranged pair of depressions on the metasternum just behind the mesocoxae. The rostrum of the female is a little longer and more slender than in the male. Abdominal sternites of female unmodified.

There has been some doubt expressed about the validity of the determination of the *Dynatopechus aureopilosus* (Fairm.) of my note in 1957: 42. The type of this species has not been examined; however, examples determined as such by Sir G. A. K. Marshall, collected at Suva, Fiji, 1920, Pemberton Collector have been examined through the courtesy of J. Balfour-Browne, British Museum (N.H.). All examples so noted, which are still in (ELS), are certainly the same species as those specimens determined by Marshall. Several other species of *Dynatopechus* are frequently intercepted at ports of entry, particularly in seed beads composed mostly of Job's Tears, *Coix* sp., and various Leguminosae such as *Mucuna* spp. and *Acacia* spp.

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