

A NEW *MELANOTUS* FROM THE CHIRICAHUA
MOUNTAINS OF ARIZONA

(COLEOPTERA: ELATERIDAE)

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The following undescribed species of *Melanotus* was attracted to black light.

***Melanotus chiricahuae* sp. n.**

Male.—Moderately robust, elongate; dark brown throughout; pubescent on both surfaces.

Head flattened on front, clypeal margin broadly rounded, overhanging; surface densely, coarsely, umbilicately punctured; antennae extending one segment beyond hind angles of pronotum, when laid alongside, segments 4 to 10 serrate, densely pubescent; second segment short, about as long as wide; third twice as long as second, together about as long as fourth; each mandible with an elongate groove at lower edge; antennal pits shallow.

Pronotum as long as wide, widest across hind angles; anterior margin broadly rounded; side margin converging from base, broadly rounded in front to constricted apex; surface convex, in addition to the strong submarginal carina of each hind angle there are two shorter more indefinite carinae, densely covered with large umbilicate punctures which are same size as those on head, at sides and in front, smaller in middle and posteriorly. Scutellum about as wide as long, truncate in front, rounded posteriorly.

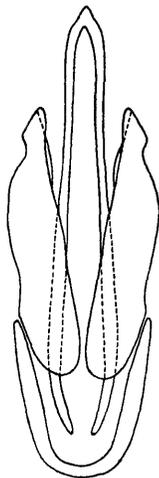


FIGURE 1. *Melanotus chiricahuae* sp. n. male genitalia.

Elytra at base narrower than pronotum, widest back of base; sides converging to apices which are rounded to suture; surface striate in front, apical lateral striae deep, striae punctures small, separated by more than their own diameters, diminishing in size toward apex, interspaces wide, irregularly finely punctured.

Prosternum very coarsely punctured; lobe declivous, surface smooth with a few fine punctures. Abdomen finely sparsely punctured in middle, punctures larger toward sides. Posterior tarsi slightly shorter than tibiae.

Length 12.8 mm; width 3.6 mm.

Female.—Differs from male by being more robust, antennae not extending beyond hind angles of pronotum.

Holotype male, allotype, and paratypes collected in Chiricahua Mountains, Cochise Co., Arizona, July 15, 1961, at 4800 feet elevation. Paratypes from same locality dated July 13, 1953; July 9, 16, 23, 30 and Aug. 7, 1959; July 3, 7, 10, 18, 29, 30, Aug. 2, 1961; and from Huachuca Mountains, Cochise Co., Arizona, July 20, 1937, Sept. 9, 1938. All material collected by D. J. and J. N. Knull. Holotype, allotype, and paratypes in collection of author. Paratypes in collections of M. C. Lane, Canadian National Collection, American Museum of Natural History, and The Ohio State University.

This species resembles *M. cribricollis* Cand., but can be separated from it because *chiricahuae* is more robust, darker in color, has shorter antennae, and has smaller punctures toward base of pronotum.
