

NOTES ON THE WINTER AND EARLY SPRING COLEOPTERA OF FLORIDA WITH DESCRIPTIONS OF NEW SPECIES.

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(Continued from page 144.)

8196.—**Rhinomacer pilosus** Lec. Originally described from Lake Superior, Virginia and California, this weevil has since been recorded from as far south as Agricultural College, Mississippi. A single specimen was beaten from pine at Dunedin, January 29. In his characterization of the family *Rhinomaceridae* LeConte states that the first joint of the antennæ is "a little stouter than the second but not longer." In the Dunedin specimen it is at least one-half longer.

8205.—**Eugnamptus striatus** Lec. A dozen or more were beaten from oak at Dunedin and Ormond. March 19—April 14.

8223.—**Pterocolus ovatus** Fab. This pretty little weevil was also beaten from oak at Dunedin, Eustis, Sanford and Ormond. March 19—April 14, ten specimens having been secured.

8310.—**Pachnæus distans** Horn. Four examples, taken at Ormond on April 11—14, range from 10 to 14 mm. in length. Horn, in his original description, gives the length as 8 mm.

8340.—**Eudiagogus pulcher** Fab. At Sanford, on January 13, several hundred of this handsome weevil were found hibernating beneath the bark of a pine log which lay by the side of a ditch of running water along the edge of a truck patch. It appears to be a common species throughout the State.

10,814.—**Apion lividum** Smith. Quite common on the dead vines of the wild cucumber (*Melothria*) and in dense masses of Spanish moss at Pelican Bay, Lake Okeechobee. A small reddish-yellow species which at first sight is liable to be taken for an *Anthonomus*.

10,829.—**Hyperodes (Macrops) hornii** Dietz. Beneath boards, along the margins of a shallow fresh-water lake just back of Dunedin, this species and *H. anthracinus* Dietz, were taken in numbers. With them were also several other species of *Listronotus* and *Hyperodes* as yet unidentified. *H. hornii* was also found at Ormond and Lake Istokpoga. January 21—April 14.

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Lixus lupinus sp. nov.

Elongate, cylindrical, robust. Black, shining, evenly and rather thickly clothed with a fine, prostrate, gray pubescence which, on the sides of thorax and elytra, is condensed into a broad, prominent marginal stripe. Beak short (2.3 mm. from eye to tip), stout, cylindrical, coarsely, closely and deeply punctate and with a fine but distinct carina reaching three-fourths to tip. Antennæ inserted one-third from tip, the second and third joints of funiculus subequal, the two together slightly longer than the first. Thorax as long as wide, sides parallel from base to middle, thence gradually converging to apex, the latter feebly bisinuate; disc with numerous very coarse shallow punctures, somewhat irregularly placed, their intervals finely reticulate-punctate, without median impressed line but with a broad shallow depression in front of scutellum and a fine carina on apical third. Elytra three times longer than thorax and one-fourth wider at base, sides parallel for three-fourths their length, thence feebly diverging into a rounded apex; disc with a large shallow concavity behind the scutellum and with regular unimpressed rows of rather large distant punctures, their intervals finely granulate-punctate. Abdomen densely pubescent, finely and densely punctate, with numerous scattered very coarse punctures. Length 11—13 mm.; width 3.5—4 mm.

Seven specimens beaten singly from the flowers of the hoary lupine (*Lupinus diffusus* Nutt.) near Dunedin between January 24 and March 18. Resembles *placidus* Lec. but that species has the first and second joints of funiculus equal and the thorax channeled for two-thirds its length. In fresh specimens of *lupinus* the pubescence of beak, thorax and elytra is so dense as to almost conceal the surface sculpture. I had at first thought this a *Cleonus* but as I am unable from the literature to clearly distinguish the differences between *Cleonus* and *Lixus* I sent it to Washington. Mr. Schwarz pronounced it a *Lixus* and wrote: "No one has hitherto been able to point out any generic differences between *Lixus* and *Cleonus* but they differ in habitus and mode of life."

10,845.—**Lixus amplexus** Casey. Quite frequent near Sarasota on the flowers of the large thistle *Carduus horridulus* Pursh. Feb. 13—27.

Lixus leptosomus sp. nov.

Elongate, cylindrical, very slender. Black, shining, very sparsely clothed with fine gray pubescence except along the sides of the thorax and elytra, where it forms a narrow but conspicuous stripe; antennæ and tarsi reddish brown. Beak short, stout, cylindrical, densely and finely reticulate-punctate, feebly carinate. Antennæ inserted at middle of beak, the first joint of funiculus stouter but subequal in length to second which is one-half longer than third. Thorax cylindrical, one-fourth longer than wide, base and apex truncate, disc without smooth median line or basal impression, coarsely and sparsely punctate, the intervals with very fine sparse punctures. Elytra at base not wider than thorax, two and one-third times as long, sides parallel for four-fifths their length, thence gradually converging to a subacute apex; disc with rows of small distant punctures, the intervals very finely and sparsely punctate. Abdomen densely pubescent, finely and sparsely punctate. Length 7 mm.; width 2 mm.

One specimen swept from low herbage along the border of a cypress swamp. Sanford, April 9. The only other described species to which it appears to be closely allied is *L. tenellus* Casey, from which it differs in the relative length of antennal joints, in the beak being densely instead of "extremely sparsely" punctate and in the relatively longer thorax and greater length of body.

11,029.—**Neomastix punctulatus** Dietz. Quite frequent on the flowers of the Ericad, *Andromeda nitida* Bart., at Dunedin, Sanford and Ormond. January 19—April 15.

8684.—**Prionomerus calceatus** Say. One example of this common northern weevil was taken at Lake Istokpoga February 29. I do not find it mentioned in any Florida list.

8719.—**Conotrachelus aratus** Germ. Two specimens were beaten from oak, one at Dunedin, March 28; the other at Sanford, April 4.

8724.—**Conotrachelus belfragei** Lec. Of this, the most handsome of the genus, a single example was beaten from pine at Eustis, April 6th. It was described from one specimen taken in Texas by Belfrage.

8774.—**Acalles ventrosus** Lec. Quite common beneath boards along the margin of fresh-water lakes near Dunedin and Kissimmee. January 18—March 19.

Tyloderma punctata Casey. Very common with the preceding; also at Sarasota and Ormond. Mating in February and March. Very distinct from *T. æreum* Say with which it is usually confounded. A single specimen of the latter was taken at Lake Okeechobee.

8797.—**Cryptorhyncus apiculatus** Gyll. A single example of this rare species was taken at Dunedin January 20; also from the border of a lake.

8821.—**Tachygonus lecontei** Gyll. One of these curious little weevils was beaten from oak at Ormond. April 15.

8826.—**Craponius inæqualis** Say. Quite frequent at Dunedin, Eustis and Ormond. January 23—April 13. Beaten from the wax-myrtle or bayberry

11,110.—**Baris æneomicans** Casey. Frequent at Dunedin; also taken on Sanibel Island and at Kissimmee. Occurs in low moist meadows.

8907.—**Madarellus undulatus** Say. One specimen from Utopia, east shore of Lake Okeechobee. The thorax is much more coarsely punctate than in those from Indiana.

8978.—**Rhodobæus tredecimpunctatus quinquepunctatus** Say. One taken by sweeping at Sanford. April 9. Schwarz records it as occurring on thistle flowers. The elytra are wholly black except a narrow reddish stripe along each side margin. The central spot of thorax is large, fusiform, reaches almost to apex, and in the Sanford specimen unites at base with the two hinder lateral spots which are obliquely merged along the base. It is a distinct southern colour variety, which in my opinion should be kept in the lists.

8983.—**Sphenophorus inæqualis** Say. Single specimens were taken at St. Petersburg and Eustis beneath cover in low damp soil. January 20—April 7.

9002.—**Sphenophorus retusus** Gyll. One at Dunedin. January 16.

11,215.—**Sphenophorus minimus** Hart. One at Dunedin,

February 7. This is quite frequent in low sandy localities in Indiana.

9019.—**Gononotus lutosus** Lec. Eight specimens were found beneath drift along the beach of Clearwater Bay at Dunedin. January 21—February 8.

A NATIONAL COLLECTION OF CANADIAN INSECTS.

The Secretary of State, with the concurrence of the Minister of Agriculture, has appointed the Dominion Entomologist, Dr. C. Gordon Hewitt, Honorary Curator of Entomology in the Canadian National Museum, Ottawa.

For a number of years the Entomological Branch of the Department of Agriculture has been laying the foundation of a representative collection of the insects of Canada. This collection, together with several collections which have been acquired by the Museum, constitute the basis of a National Collection. In it will be incorporated the insects collected and received by the Entomological Branch and by the Museum. As the National Museum is under the direction of the Director of the Geological Survey and Deputy Minister of Mines, increased facilities will be afforded for securing entomological collections made by surveying and exploring parties, for example, the Canadian (Stefansson) Arctic Expedition is collecting insects for the National Collection. The collections will be stored in cabinets similar to those now in use in the United States National Museum at Washington, and it will be a great satisfaction to Canadian entomologists to know that the collections will be housed in a fire-proof building. It is hoped that this important move in the interests of Canadian entomology will receive the support of collectors throughout the country. Collectors having duplicate material will greatly assist in building up the collections by sending such extra specimens of local insects as they may be able to spare for inclusion in the National Collection. Especially is it to be desired that types of Canadian species shall be deposited in the National Museum, where they will be properly cared for.

The Entomological Branch of the Department of Agriculture will continue its practice of naming insects for collectors, and such collections and correspondence relating to the same should be addressed to "The Dominion Entomologist, Ottawa."