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### A New Endomychid from Florida<sup>1</sup> (Coleop.).

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An Endomychid belonging to the genus *Stenotarsus* quite distinct however from our common *S. hispidus* (Herbst) so widely distributed over the eastern part of the United States, was recently forwarded me for identification by Mr. W. S. Blatchley, of Indianapolis, Indiana. The single specimen collected by Mr. Blatchley was obtained on the west coast of Florida at Dunedin, April 10, 1926, in beating red cedar (Juniper).

The species is easily distinguished from *S. hispidus* by having the seven terminal segments of the antennae black, by the uniformly testaceous color of the dorsal side, and by the black areas covering the underside of the metathorax and abdomen. Casey (1916) described *S. solidus* from North Carolina as a new species stating that the "ninth antennal joint (was) distinctly longer than the tenth and not subequal in length as in *hispidus*". All of the many specimens of *S. hispidus* which I have seen however, have the ninth segment of the antennae slightly longer than the tenth segment. Inasmuch as the other characters noted have on the basis of the description only a relatively slight comparative value, the form scarcely merits being retained even as a variety.

The genus *Stenotarsus* is an extremely large one numbering some one hundred and fifty species confined almost entirely to the tropical regions, only a few being found in the temperate zones. The punctuation of the elytra may be utilized to separate the forms into at least three fairly well defined groups, commencing with the well defined striate forms and ending with the irregularly punctuate forms found in North and South America. If we assume with Tillyard that the arrangement of the punctures in the form of striae represents a more primitive condition, so far as the Coleoptera are concerned, than the irregular arrangement, the trend of migration in the group is clearly indicated.

The two species found within the limits of the United States and Canada may be easily separated by the following characters.

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<sup>1</sup> Contributions from the Samuel Mather Science Hall. Biology No. 32.

*Table of Species.*

Antennae with six distal segments black; disk of each elytron black with a narrow pale yellow border sometimes obsolete along the suture; underside uniformly pale yellow.

*S. hispidus.*

Antennae with seven distal segments black; dorsal surface of the body uniformly pale yellow except the eyes; abdomen and metathorax beneath with large black central area.

*S. blatchleyi.*

***Stenotarsus blatchleyi* n. sp.**

Uniformly light yellow in color with the exception of the seven distal segments of the antennae, the eyes, and a central area covering the greater part of the underside of the abdomen and the metathorax, black; clothed with long yellowish hairs.

Form elongately oval, the elytra gradually narrowed behind so that an acuminate appearance is presented; legs comparatively short; antennae extending slightly beyond the posterior margin of the pro-

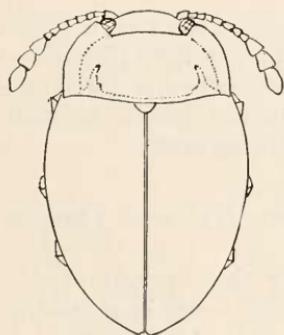


Fig. 1. *Stenotarsus blatchleyi* (x 10), from Dunedin, west coast of Florida.

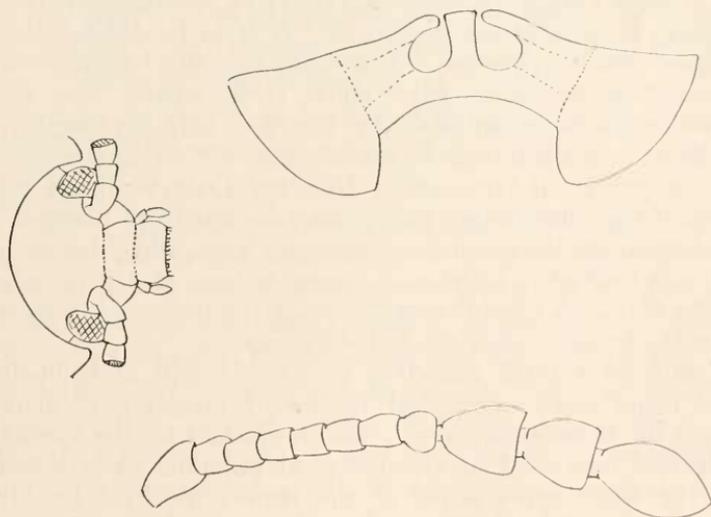


Fig. 2. *Stenotarsus blatchleyi*. (A) Underside of prothorax (x 30). (B) Antenna (right) (x 40). (C) Head (x 15).

notum, the first segment somewhat elongate, second globose, third to seventh segments slightly increasing in length, the sixth and seventh segments distinctly longer than broad, the eighth segment globose, and the ninth, tenth and eleventh segments forming a club the length of which is approximately equal to the length of segments three to eight inclusive; distal segment elongately oval and acuminate at tip.

Pronotum transverse with posterior angles slightly acute, decidedly narrowed anteriorly, central area convex, marginal lines distinct, longitudinal sulci scarcely attaining the middle, slightly convergent anteriorly, fine basal sulcus almost in contact with the posterior margin.

Scutellum punctuate, broadly triangular; elytra with prominent umbones, entire surface finely and irregularly punctuate; abdomen with first segment equal in length to the three succeeding segments, the fifth longer than the fourth segment, and the narrow sixth longer than the fifth segment.

Length, 4 mm. Diameter, 2.6 mm.

*Type* in collection of W. S. Blatchley. Taken at Dunedin, Florida.

I take much pleasure in dedicating this species to Mr. Blatchley who has done so much efficient work in promoting the cause of systematic entomology. It is closely related to *S. latipes* Arrow (1920) erroneously identified by Gorham in the *Biologia Centrali-Americana* (1899) as *S. angustulus* Gerstaecker, as pointed out by Arrow. It is to be distinguished however from that species in possessing four basal segments of the antennae which are pale yellow, in its smaller size, and in having the antennae decidedly less than half the length of the body, a characteristic however which differs in the sexes of many species of *Stenotarsus*. In *S. latipes* the two basal segments of the antennae are pale yellow, the third and fourth are pale brown, and the seven distal segments black, while the length of the individual is noted as 5.5 mm. instead of 4 mm. as in *S. blatchleyi*. A careful comparison of the two species would undoubtedly show other distinct differences.

Continued careful collecting in Florida will undoubtedly yield many more subtropical species of insects particularly among the minute forms so often overlooked by the average individual interested in entomological pursuits. We should thus be quite appreciative of the results obtained by Mr. Blatchley in helping to demonstrate the value of keen observation in connection with the fauna and flora of Florida.