

FOUR NEW SPECIES OF PHLEPSIUS.

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Phlepsius areolatus, n. sp.

♀.—Length 6.5 mm. Form of *cinereus*: Head narrower than pronotum. Vertex distinctly angulate, a little longer than half width between eyes or half the length of pronotum; nearly flat, slightly broadly depressed on either side, the edge distinctly compressed. Front a half longer than wide, nearly two and a half times the length of the clypeus, sides rather strongly incurved at antennal sockets. Clypeus gradually enlarged towards the truncate tip, its length once and a half the width at tip. Width of pronotum nearly two and a half times the length, surface neither punctured or wrinkled.

Colour cinereous. Vertex with two large fulvous clouds, a triangular black spot either side of tip, and two black dots at base. Ocelli large, white. Clypeus with two black dots near tip, lorae and genae irregularly dotted, and front with poorly-defined arcs. Pronotum anteriorly with four indistinct fulvous blotches, posteriorly and scutellum irrorate with fulvous. Elytra milky white, veins dark brown, the supernumerary veins distinct and numerous; the other dark colouring bordering the cells, but usually not touching the veins, producing a strongly areolate appearance; with darker costal dots. Legs with the following more conspicuous markings: Fore femora with a black spot before near the apex, fore tibiae with three black spots before; behind both are heavily irrorate with black; middle femora with a longitudinal black stripe behind, middle tibiae trimaculate; hind femora and tibiae with a longitudinal stripe before. Sternum with three dark spots on either side. Venter, except along the middle and dorsum, irrorate with dark.

Last ventral segment twice the length of preceding, hind margin truncate, with a small median notch; lateral angles rather sharp.

The type specimen of this interesting species was collected at Onaga, Kansas, by Mr. F. F. Crevecoeur. It is very distinct from anything in the *spatulatus* group.

Phlepsius personatus, n. sp.

♀.—Length 6 mm. Form very closely resembling that of *spatulatus*, but smaller. Head narrower than pronotum. Vertex very obtusely angulate, length three-fifths of width between eyes, or somewhat over half the length of the pronotum; surface gently convex, evenly rounded on to the front, entirely without a compressed edge. Front nearly a half longer

than wide, two and one-half times the length of the clypeus, sides gently incurved at the antennal sockets. Clypeus gradually enlarged towards the truncate tip, basal suture obsolete. Width of pronotum scarcely two and one-fourth times the length, surface sparsely punctured.

Colour pale cinerous. Head washed with fulvous, with few dark marks, but the arcs on front distinct; antennal pits, eyes, and a narrow longitudinal area on the pleura back of eyes, dark brown, giving the insect a very unique appearance. Pronotum obscurely irrorate with fulvous. Basal angles of scutell broadly fulvous. Elytra milky white, vermiculations very fine, faint, and evenly distributed; without supernumerary transverse veins; legs without marks, except the usual dots at bases of spines.

Last ventral segment twice the length of preceding, hind margin truncate, with a small median notch; lateral angles very obtuse.

Described from a single specimen collected at Yuma, Ariz., July 6th, 1897, by Prof. A. P. Morse. This species resembles a small *spatulatus*, which is its nearest relative, but differs in size, colour and genital characters.

Phlepsius texanus, n. sp.

♀.—Length 7.5 mm. Form nearest to that of *punctiscriptus*, which it also resembles in some other characters. Head slightly broader than pronotum. Vertex little produced, very obtusely angulate, length one-third of the width between the eyes, or somewhat more than one-third the length of the pronotum; surface sloping, slightly transversely depressed, meeting the front in a very obtuse angle, edge not at all compressed. Front a third longer than wide, sides evenly curved from the vertex to the clypeus, not at all bent opposite the antennae. Clypeus slightly enlarged towards the truncate tip, length once and three-fourths the width at tip. Width of pronotum once and seven-eighths the length, surface obscurely punctured.

Colour cinereous, with a faint fulvous tinge on vertex, pronotum, and scutell. Vertex irrorate with brown, face dark fulvous, except numerous small round light dots all over, and several larger light spots on front; the ocelli in white dots. Pronotum coarsely irrorate with brown, more strongly so in an irregular band between the hind angles of the eyes. Scutell with two black dots on each lateral margin. Elytra milky, and, except in frequent small irregular areas, marked with fine dots and very fine vermiculations, the latter short, rather few in number and radiating from

tht veins, without supernumerary transverse veins. Commissural and apical costal margins each with two larger dark spots. Femora more or less completely heavily triannulate with dark, the fore and middle tibiae more or less completely quadriannulate; hind tibiae with large dots at bases of spines and tip, black.

Last ventral segment once and a half times as long as preceding, hind margin black and slightly sinuate, hind angles narrowly, somewhat acutely, produced nearly a third the length of the segment.

♂ more slender. Length 7 mm. Plate short, broadly triangular. Valves short, each about as broad as long, outer edge obtusely angled below, tips bluntly rounded, far exceeding the extremely short pygofers.

Described from several specimens in the National Museum collection, from Texas. This species is very distinct from any described North American form. It resembles *punctiscriptus* somewhat, but differs in structure of head, genitalia of both ♀ and ♂, and in markings.

Phlepsius Rileyi, n. sp.

♀.—Length — 7.5 mm. Nearest *texanus*. Head slightly broader than pronotum. Vertex rather strongly angularly produced, length little less than one half of the width between the eyes, or about one-half the length of the pronotum; surface sloping, slightly transversely depressed, meeting the front in a very obtuse angle, edge not at all compressed. Front somewhat less than a third longer than wide, sides evenly curved from vertex to clypeus, not at all bent opposite the antennae. Clypeus slightly enlarged towards the truncate tip; length once and three-fourths the width at tip. Width of pronotum nearly twice the length; surface sparsely punctured.

Colour pale fulvous. Markings as in *texanus*, except paler and more uniform on vertex, and no indications of a band on the pronotum; the whole insect of a more distinctly fulvous cast.

Last ventral segment twice the length of the preceding, entire hind margin in two large evenly rounded lobes, the notch between them V-shaped.

Described from material in the National Museum, collected in Texas. This species has no relative nearer than the *texanus*, from which it differs in proportions of head and pronotum and in the genitalia. The genitalia of the female resemble somewhat those of *incisus*, but that species differs widely in form and coloration. Named after Dr. Riley, in whose collection it first occurred.