
ON SOME NEW OR NOTEWORTHY COLEOPTERA FROM
THE WEST COAST OF FLORIDA.—IV.

BY W. S. BLATCHLEY, INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA.

A further study of the Coleoptera collected by myself during the winter season of 1916-17, and those taken at porch light and sent me in June and July, 1917, has revealed the following species worthy of note or apparently undescribed. Unless otherwise mentioned, all the species were taken at or near Dunedin, a town on Clearwater Bay, 21 miles north of St. Petersburg, Florida.

Platynus octopunctatus Fab.—A single example of this handsome and easily recognized Carabid was taken February 13 from beneath rubbish on the site of a recently drained pond. Schwarz records one specimen from Tampa, and Leng has one or two from "Fla." In Western Indiana it occurs frequently in winter beneath cover on the slopes of sparsely wooded hills.

Bidessus floridanus Fall.—Of this species, which bears a close general resemblance of *B. pulicarius* Aube, a dozen or more specimens have been taken at Dunedin, and one or two at Sarasota and Kissimmee. Fall's types are from Jacksonville, and it probably occurs throughout the State.

Celina grossula Lec.—One specimen was taken at Gainesville on February 7. Schwarz records it as very rare at Enterprise and Jacksonville.

Hydræna marginicollis Kies.—This minute Hydrophilid occurs in small numbers beneath immersed boards in the ponds about Dunedin. Like *Notomicrus nanulus* Lec. it only becomes visible when it moves. Schwarz lists it as rare, but mentions no definite locality.

Tropisternus sublævis Lec.—No previous record of the occurrence of this species in Florida can be found. It was described from Nebraska and Georgia. Single specimens were taken at Dunedin on January 30 and February 23, and another at porch light on June 20.

Ditoma carinata Lec.—A single specimen was taken beneath the bark of a magnolia log at Gainesville on February 7. Recorded from Tampa and Enterprise by Schwarz.

February, 1918

Bothrideres geminatus Say.—A dozen or more taken on December 16 and January 6 from beneath the close-fitting bark of a dead water-oak. Crescent City (Schwarz in Mss.).

Lathropus pictus Sz.—One specimen taken March 6, while beating in a wet hammock. The types were found at Haulover beneath bark of a dead oak. Known also from Key West and Biscayne Bay.

Loberus subglaber Casey.—Occurs in numbers on the seabite, *Batis maritima* L., on Hog Island. Casey described it* from New Jersey, and this is the first published record for Florida.

Hesperobænus rufipes Lec.—Described† from the "Southern States," as "rare," and said by Horn** to occur in Missouri, Georgia and Louisiana. A dozen or more specimens were secured on December 24 from beneath the bark of an oak log.

Tenebroides bimaculata Melsh.—Though Horn says‡ that this species is common in the Southern States I can find no record of its occurrence in Florida. A single specimen was beaten from dead vines on March 6.

Monocrepidius debilis Lec.—This species was described¹ as an *Athous* from a single specimen taken at Lake Harney, Florida, in May. Three have been secured at Duncedin, two by beating in a wet hammock on March 22 and April 6, the other at porch light on July 10. The third joint of antennæ is at least one-fourth longer than the second, not equal to it as stated by LeConte. Tampa (Schwarz in Mss.).

Monocrepidius aversus Lec.—Two specimens at porch light, June 20—July 5. Described from Georgia as rare. No previous Florida record.

Elater sturmii Germ.—A single example was taken at porch light on June 12. Schwarz records one from Enterprise. It is known only from Florida.

Ozognathus floridanus Lec.—This species ranges from New Jersey to Texas. As pointed out by Fall, the head and thorax are

*Journ. N. Y. Ent. Soc., VIII, 1900, 83.

†Smithson. Missc. Coll., 167, 1863, 65.

**Trans. Am. Ent. Soc., VII, 263.

‡Proc. Phil. Acad. Nat. Sci., 1862, 87.

1. Proc. Am. Phil. Soc., XVII, 405.

often rufous, two of the four specimens at hand from Dunedin being thus bicolored. All were beaten from oak along the margins of ponds.

Eutylistus tristriatus Lec.—While ranging from Pennsylvania to Texas, this species is recorded from Florida only from Key Largo. Single specimens have been sifted from dead leaves at Dunedin on January 16 and March 21.

Cis impressa Casey.—A single male of this well marked form was taken at porch light on June 10. Chas. Dury, of Cincinnati, Ohio, who has in press a monograph of the family Cioideæ, has verified the determination. Casey's types were from California and Washington. Other members of the family taken at Dunedin are *Cis hirsuta* Casey, described from Lake Worth, common; *C. ursulina* Casey, described from Alabama, *Ennearthron pullulum* and *Ceracis punctulata* Casey, scarce. Several new species, descriptions of which by Dury will soon appear, have also been taken.

Canthon perplexus Lec.—One specimen taken at light on July 10. While it is said by Blanchard* to range from Illinois to California and Yucatan, no other Florida record can be found.

Canthon probus Germ.—One specimen was taken from a bucket of water on February 10. Schwarz records one only from Enterprise. Known also from Crescent City and St. Augustine.

Copris inemarginatus sp. nov.—Form of the common *C. anaglypticus* Say, but usually smaller. Clypeus shorter, its front margin entire and less reflexed, its surface punctures less distinct, more granulate. Thorax more shining with sides behind the front angles much less sinuate than in *anaglypticus*, the angles themselves not in the form of a small, obtuse tooth as there; sculpture much the same, but the punctures, especially those on sides, more distinct and ocellate; elytra with intervals more shining, less convex and wholly smooth instead of closely and minutely punctate as in *anaglypticus*. Front margin of prosternum without the small, obtuse tooth seen in that species. Both sexes with a very short, obtuse horn or tubercle at middle of head; front half of thorax wholly unmodified and much less declivous than in *anaglypticus*. Length 11.5–15 mm.

*Trans. Amer. Ent. Soc., XII, 1885, 167.

Described from 14 specimens taken at Dunedin, two beneath dead turtle on January 20, the others at porch light in June and July. In the Fall and Dury collections and in that of the American Museum of Natural History, this stands as *C. mæchus* Lec., a Texas species 19 mm. in length, with clypeus obtusely notched at middle, thorax sparsely and irregularly punctured and horns more strongly developed than in *anaglypticus*. Dury writes that his single specimen from Port Orange, Florida, was so named for him by Horn and Ulke, but that "it varies widely from LeConte's brief description of *mæchus*, and it cannot be *anaglypticus*." Fall states that "I have had this with the label '*mæchus*' for many years, but don't know on whose authority the identification rests. On looking at it now with the table in hand it does not seem possible that it can be *mæchus*. It certainly is not *anaglypticus*." Mutchler writes that the three specimens labeled "Fla." in the American Museum collection, agree with the description of *mæchus* only in having the thorax not opaque. Specimens in the U. S. National Museum from Enterprise, Fla., are labeled *anaglypticus* and H. S. Barber writes that both he and Mr. Schwarz believe that the species is "merely a depauperate form, due to biological conditions of which we are now ignorant, but which is not specifically distinct from *C. anaglypticus*. It is certainly not *C. mæchus* Lec."

As these most eminent living American Coleopterists cannot agree upon the name for this species, I have decided to give it that of *inemarginatus*. The "biological conditions" mentioned by Barber are doubtless prevalent throughout the peninsula of Florida, as the beetle seems to be widely distributed over that State. If they are sufficient to put the shine on its surface, take the notch out of its clypeus and put the punctures in its elytral intervals, it is certainly worthy of a distinctive name. If it be a mere form of *anaglypticus*, as Schwarz and Barber believe, then our conceptions of that species are wholly wrong, and all our tables of the genus *Copris* will have to be greatly modified.

***Trox erinaceus* Lec.**—Numerous specimens at carrion traps, February 5–24. The first published Florida record. Horn gives its range as New Jersey to Georgia and Indian Territory.

Lachnosterna boops Horn.—Frequent at porch light in June and July. Described from Northern Georgia; known also from Tampa, Crescent City and Indian River (Schwarz Mss.).

Ecyrus dasycerus Say.—A single specimen taken by beating dead vines in a wet hammock.

Ataxia crypta Say.—Two specimens in December by beating oak, one April 26, at porch light. Recorded by Schwarz as rare at Ft. Capron. Known also from St. Augustine, Crescent City and Key West.

Monocesta coryli Say.—Two specimens of this large Chrysomelid were recently sent me by Dr. E. W. Berger of Gainesville. They were taken at Palmetto, Fla., on July 3, where they were found feeding on elm. Horn* states that the beetle occurs in Virginia, Illinois and Kansas. It is also recorded from Missouri, but no reference to its occurrence south of that state can be found.

Disonycha mellicollis Say.—This species, known from Indiana to Louisiana and Texas, has been found about Dunedin only beneath boards near the edge of high tide along the beach of Clearwater Bay, where it occurs in small numbers throughout the winter. Known also from Ft. Capron.

Epitrix fasciata sp. nov.—Oval, moderately convex. Head and thorax dull reddish brown; elytra dull yellow with a broad median blackish cross-bar, this interrupted on the second and third intervals, thus forming an oblong sutural spot which is slightly prolonged forwards, and a large spot on each elytron; antennæ, legs and prosternum dull yellow, abdomen piceous. Head very minutely and sparsely punctate. Thorax two-thirds wider than long, sides feebly curved, front angles obliquely truncate, hind ones rounded; disc rather coarsely, deeply and closely, not densely, punctate, the ante-basal impression deep. Elytra at base but slightly wider than thorax, widest at middle, sides broadly rounded, umbone small, oblong; striæ with rows of large, rounded punctures separated by one-half their own diameters; intervals narrow, con-

*Trans. Am. Ent. Soc., XX, 61.

vex, each with a row of prominent semi-erect, yellowish hairs. Abdomen very sparsely and finely punctate. Length 1.6 mm.

Two specimens were swept from low herbage on Hog Island, opposite Dunedin, on April 2, one of which escaped from the net and avoided recapture. The type is unique in coloration and smaller than any species except *brevis*, from which, aside from colour, it differs in its much less convex form and deep, ante-basal impression.

Haplandrus ater Lec.—Two specimens were taken on January 6 from beneath the bark of a water-oak. Schwarz records it as rare at Tampa in decaying pine logs.

Hymenorus elbertæ sp. nov.—Elongate-oblong, moderately convex, shining, thinly clothed with semiprostrate, yellowish hairs. Head, thorax, antennæ, legs and prosternum uniform dull red; elytra fuscous-brown; under surface, except prosternum, dark reddish brown. Head rather finely and closely punctate; eyes large, separated by two-thirds their width; antennæ much more slender than in *densus*, third joint one-half longer than fourth. Thorax but slightly wider than long, sides parallel from base to middle, thence broadly curved and rounded into the apex, hind angles rectangular; disc with a faint, broad, longitudinal median impression, the punctures fine, ocellate, separated by about one-half their own diameters, their intervals minutely alutaceous. Elytra but slightly wider at base than thorax, sides parallel to apical third, then feebly curved to apex; striæ fine, their punctures small, close set; intervals feebly convex, each with three or four rows of minute, hair-bearing punctures. Under surface finely and sparsely punctate, the hairs of the punctures much shorter than those of elytra. Length 4.8–5.5 mm.

Described from seven specimens taken at porch light, June 12–July 11. Allied to *H. densus* Lec. but readily separated by its more slender subparallel form, wholly pale and more filiform antennæ, more shining surface and much finer sculpture of thorax and elytra. Named in honour of my daughter-in-law, Elberta H. Blatchley, of Dunedin, Fla., who has kindly collected for me this and many other interesting beetles during the summer months.

Pseudariotus amicus Casey.—One specimen, April 6. Casey described it from two specimens taken at Biscayne Bay, Fla., by Hubbard and Schwarz.

Vanonus sagax Casey.—A single example, April 6. Both this and the preceding, as well as a number of other interesting forms, as *Emelinus** *ashmeadi*, *Zonantes schwarzi*, *Sandytes ptinoides* and *Toxotropis floridanus*, have been taken only by sweeping ferns and other vegetation in Skinner's Hammock, a densely wooded, wet tract of several hundred acres located one mile north-east of Dunedin. Casey's types of *V. sagax* were from Indian River, Fla. It is known also from Crescent City.

Epicauta watsoni, sp. nov.—Elongate, subcylindrical. Black, above uniformly and densely clothed with grayish-yellow pubescence; antennæ black, legs piceous. Head with a narrow and deep median groove, its sculpture concealed; eyes large, rather coarsely granulated, not emarginate; antennæ with joints cylindrical, of equal thickness throughout, closely united, the second one-third the length of third. Thorax distinctly wider than long, sides straight, at apical third strongly obliquely convergent, hind angles obtuse; disc apparently smooth, but with punctures so minute as to be visible only under high power, and with a wide, deep, entire median groove which expands near base and apex. Elytra with sculpture concealed, their tips separately rounded. Under surface finely granulate-punctate, the pubescence less dense than that above. Length 9.5 mm.

One specimen taken on Compositæ near Gainesville, September 17, by Prof. J. R. Watson, the able entomologist of the Florida Agricultural Experiment Station, in whose honour I have given the name. Differs from all other known species of Section A of Horn in the form and sculpture of thorax. Messrs. Schwarz and Barber report that it is unlike anything in the National Museum collection and entirely unknown to them. In a manuscript "List of Coleoptera named for Mr. Chas. Johnson by John Hamilton and said to have been taken in the vicinity of St. Augustine,

*This was wrongly printed *Eleminus* on page 277 of the August No. of the Can. Entom.

Florida," which list has been loaned me by Mr. Schwarz, I find the following: "*Epicauta strigosa* and a n. sp., the female of which has the thorax smooth, impunctate, polished." It is very probable that the new species thus briefly mentioned by Dr. Hamilton is the one I have above described as *Epicauta wilsonsi*.

Anthonomus scutellaris Lec.—Two specimens on March 9, by beating plum. In the "Rhynchophora of N. E. America," its southern range is given as Georgia and Texas. Bred from wild plum taken at Brookville, Fla., by P. H. Dorsett. (Schwarz Mss.)

Anthonomus elegans Lec.—On February 27 a single example of this handsome weevil was swept from the foliage of the mangrove, *Rhizophora mangle* L., on Hog Island. Known heretofore only from Haulover, Jupiter and Biscayne Bay on the east coast of Florida.

Conotrachelus serpentinus Boh.—One specimen taken March 6, by beating in the Skinner Hammock. Recorded only from Enterprise and Biscayne Bay.

Acalles granosus Lec.—Two specimens of this rare species were taken February 17 in company with *Anthonus duryi* and *Conotrachelus maritimus* beneath chunks of saw palmetto stems along the beach of Clearwater Bay; also recorded only from near the east coast.

Cryptorhynchus helvus Lec.—Of this rare species, known heretofore only by the unique type from Enterprise, Fla., I possess a single specimen kindly given me by H. L. Dozier. It was taken near Gainesville on June 26, 1916.

Sphenophorus chittendeni Blatch.—A fourth specimen of this distinct "bill-bug" was picked up December 21 from the sidewalk along the bay front at Dunedin. It evidently occurs only along or close to the sea coast.

In order to be enabled to devote all of his time to closely allied economic work in the Agricultural Department of the University of Minnesota, Professor F. L. Washburn, for fifteen years State Entomologist, has asked and obtained the consent of the Board of Regents of the University to drop the State Entomologist work, with its attendant police and quarantine duties, this change to be effective February 6th, 1918.