

## NEW SPECIES OF NEW ZEALAND STAPHYLINIDAE (COL.)

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The types of the species described below are in the Auckland Museum, New Zealand. Co-types are in my collection. They were collected by Mr. Turbott of the Auckland Museum.

**Oxytelus (Anotylus) crookesi** sp.n.

Moderately shining, yellow, the head and elytra more or less extensively infuscate, the thoracic sulci narrowly blackish; abdomen with a narrow black fascia along the middle. Antennae with the first five segments yellow the rest black. Palpi and legs yellow. Length 3.3 mm.

♀.—In build and thoracic structure much like *melas* Fauv., ♀ but in all other respects different. The whole insect with distinct coriaceous ground sculpture. Head narrower than thorax, strongly transverse, depressed in front, at the middle of the base with a fovea, the eyes large, finely faceted occupying practically the whole side, rather closely and moderately finely punctured except in front. Antennae with the 3rd segment as long as the 2nd, 4th and 5th small, transverse, 6th to 10th broader, increasing in width, the penultimate fully twice as broad as long, 11th as long as the 9th and 10th together. Thorax transverse ( $3\frac{1}{2}:2\frac{1}{2}$ ), the sides gently rounded, a little more retracted in front than behind, the posterior angles rounded; along the middle narrowly sulcate, on each side with a broader slightly curved impression, the sides impressed, puncturation very similar to that of the head. Elytra a little longer ( $3:2\frac{1}{2}$ ) and broader than the thorax, transverse ( $4:3\frac{1}{2}$ ), the punctures finer and less close. Abdomen practically impunctate.

♂.—Unknown.

AUCKLAND: Mt. Roskill. In garden refuse.

**Scopaeus (Polyodontus) apterus** sp.n.

Narrow elongate shining reddish yellow. Antennae and legs reddish yellow. Length 2.5 mm.

A narrow fragile species at once distinguished by the short elytra. Head very slightly widened behind, very slightly longer than broad, broader than thorax, broadly impunctate along the middle and very finely coriaceous, at the sides closely finely rugosely punctured. Eyes very small. Antennae short, slender, 3rd segment slightly shorter and more slender than 2nd, 4th and 5th about as long as broad, 6th to 10th transverse, increasing in width, the penultimate about twice as broad as long. Thorax longer than broad ( $3:2.5$ ), narrowly-impunctate along the middle, elsewhere with fine close punctures, finely coriaceous. Elytra as broad as but much shorter than the thorax ( $2:3$ ), slightly widened behind, the puncturation much coarser and rugose. Abdomen a little widened towards the apex, very finely and very sparingly punctured, finely coriaceous, 7th tergite without marginal membrane.

THREE KINGS ISLAND: 6.x.48. In leaf mould.

**Quedius (st. str.) subapterus** sp.n.

Shining; black, the elytra dark reddish brown. Antennae with the first three segments reddish yellow, the following black. Legs reddish yellow, the femora and tibiae more or less infuscate. Length 6 mm.

In size and general facies and antennal structure much like *vividus* Brn., but differs in the shorter elytra and colour of the abdomen. Head transverse orbicular, broader than the thorax, the eyes large, the post-ocular region about a third of their length, bifoveate behind the antennal tubercles, tripunctate along the inner margin of the eye and with two pre-basal punctures, the ground sculpture very fine and striate. Antennae slender, the 3rd segment a little longer than the 2nd, the 4th distinctly longer than broad, the following decreasing in length, the penultimate very slightly longer than broad. Thorax as long as broad the sides gently rounded, a little more retracted towards the front, the disc bi-punctate before the middle, occasionally with another puncture postero-externally; ground sculpture as on the head. Scutellum punctured and pubescent. Elytra as long and as broad as the thorax at the base, slightly widened behind, closely and finely punctured, finely coriaceous and with golden pubescence, at the shoulder with a long black seta. Abdomen a little narrowed towards apex, the punctures fine and not very close, the pubescence golden and scanty, at the bases of the segments on each side of the middle forming small obscure patches of divergent hairs; 7th tergite without marginal membrane; ground sculpture fine, transverse, striate.

THREE KINGS ISLAND, 6.x.48. In leaf mould.

### **Pseudopisalia gen. n.**

In build much resembling *Leptusa* s.g. *Pisalia*, e.g. *Brucki* Scriba, but with different mouth parts. Head exserted, neck broad, eyes small, temples bordered; pronotal epipleura visible from the side; mesosternum simple, its process narrow and pointed, extending three fourths the length of the coxae (these narrowly separated) and meeting the short metasternal process; first three visible tergites transversely impressed at base, the 7th without marginal membrane: elytra shorter than thorax. Labrum transverse, the anterior margin feebly rounded. Mandibles small, edentate. Maxilla with the inner lobe membranous, closely sponose; outer lobe as long as the inner, membranous, ciliate at apex. Maxillary palpus with small 1st segment, 2nd enlarged towards apex, 3rd longer than 2nd and thicker apically, 4th subulate fully half as long as the 3rd. Mentum slightly transverse, truncate, keeled along middle; labial palpi of two segments, the 1st elongate, 2nd narrow and slightly shorter: tongue very long and narrow, as long as the 1st segment of the labial palpus, the apex rounded: paraglossae feeble extending a little beyond the base of the 1st segment of the labial palpus. Tarsi 4, 4, 5, the first and second with the first three segments short, the 4th longer than the first three together: posterior with the first four segments rather short, equal, the 5th as long as the three preceding together.

GENOTYPE: *Pseudopisalia turtoni* sp. n.

### **Pseudopisalia turbotti sp.n.**

Moderately shining dark reddish brown, the abdomen sometimes lighter with infusate 7th tergite. Antennae blackish, the first four or five segments fusco-testaceous. Legs reddish yellow. Length 1.5-1.75 mm.

Head transversely suborbicular narrower than the thorax, the eyes small, much shorter than the post-orbital region; distinctly coriaceous and with a few small obsolete punctures. Antennae with the first two segments of equal length, the 3rd shorter and narrower, 4th slightly longer than broad, 5th to 10th transverse, increasing in width, the penultimate about twice as broad as long, 11th as long as the 9th and 10th together. Thorax transverse, convex, the sides gently rounded and a little more retracted behind than in front, a little broader than the elytra, the sculpture as on the head. Elytra shorter than the thorax (1.5:2) parallel, broader than long (2.75:1.5) with small asperate moderately close punctures and similar ground sculpture. Abdomen a little narrowed at base and apex, finely rather sparingly punctured especially behind, the ground sculpture as on the fore-parts.

♂.—Sutural margin of elytra carinate: 7th tergite with short median keel.

GREAT KING ISLAND: 6.x.48. In leaf mould.

### **Thamiaraea aucklandica sp.n.**

Fore-parts black moderately shining, abdomen very shining, black, the posterior half of 7th and whole of 8th tergites yellow. Antennae black, the first segment and legs reddish yellow. Length 3 mm.

Near *fuscicornis* Brn. but the fore-parts less shining blacker, the ground sculpture much stronger and only the first segment of the antennae reddish yellow. Head transverse suborbicular a little narrower than the thorax, the eye much shorter than the post-ocular region; with a few very fine obsolete punctures, the ground sculpture strong, coriaceous. Antennae rather long, the first three segments of equal length, 4th to 6th very slightly longer than broad decreasing in length, 7th to 10th slightly transverse, 11th as long as the 9th and 10th together. Thorax transverse (4.5:3.5), sides gently rounded, more retracted behind, the posterior angles rounded, narrowly sulcate along the middle, the disc obsoletely bi-impressed, the puncturation much less fine, closer and more distinct than on the head, the ground sculpture scarcely differing. Elytra longer and broader than the thorax, broader than long (6:4.5), finely rather closely punctured, the ground sculpture weaker. Abdomen parallel, finely and very sparingly punctured, the ground sculpture scarcely visible transversely striate.

AUCKLAND: Epsom, 15.ix.48. In leaf mould.

### **Atheta (Oreostiba) maruiana sp.n.**

Moderately shining black, the elytra blackish brown. Antennae black the first two segments and legs reddish yellow, the femora a little infusate along the anterior border. Length 2-2½ mm.

Smaller and narrower than *tibialis* Heer, less shining, antennae a little shorter but very similarly constructed, thorax less transverse and less finely punctured than the head,

elytra a little shorter more transverse. Head suborbicular slightly widened behind, nearly as broad as the thorax, the eyes small, the post-ocular region about three times longer, the punctures small, obsolete moderately close posteriorly, yet finer and more sparing in front; ground sculpture fine, coriaceous. Antennae with the first three segments elongate, scarcely differing in length, 4th very slightly transverse, 5th to 10th gradually and slightly increasing in width, the penultimate about a half broader than long, 11th as long as 9th and 10th together. Thorax transverse (3.5:3), the sides very slightly rounded, equally and slightly retracted in front and behind, the posterior angles rounded, the sculpture very like that of the head. Elytra as long as but broader than the thorax, broader than long (4:3), the punctures small, less obsolete than on the thorax and moderately close, the ground sculpture similar. Abdomen parallel, finely and rather sparingly punctured throughout, coriaceous like the fore-parts.

WESTLAND: Maruia Springs, South Island, ix.1948. In leaf mould.

### **Austrocalea brookesi** sp.n.

Shining: black, the elytra dark reddish brown. Antennae black, the 1st segment reddish yellow, the 2nd and 3rd more or less infuscate. Legs reddish yellow. Length 3.75 mm.

Very near *lewisi* Cam., but the head and thorax without ground sculpture, less finely and more deeply punctured, the antennae shorter, the 4th segment transverse, the penultimate more so. Head narrower than the thorax, orbicular, the eye as long as the post-ocular region; closely and deeply punctured. Antennae stout, the 2nd and 3rd segments of equal length, 4th small, transverse, 5th to 10th more transverse, increasing in width, the penultimate twice as broad as long. Thorax narrower than the elytra, slightly transverse (5:4½), the sides gently rounded in front, straighter and less retracted behind, the posterior angles obtuse, before the scutellum with a small transverse impression, the puncturation as close but finer and much less deep than on the head. Elytra longer and broader than the thorax, broader than long (7.3:6), closely and more strongly punctured. Abdomen a little narrowed at apex, closely punctured in the basal impressions elsewhere very sparingly and without ground sculpture.

AUCKLAND: Mt. Roskill. March, 1948.

### **Heterodoxa** gen.n.

Remarkable amongst the *Aleocharini* in the two segmented labial palpi; in facies much like an *Atheta* s.g. *Philhygra*. Head exerted, suborbicular, neck rather broad, the temples bordered below. Labrum truncate transverse. Right mandible with obsolete tooth about the middle. Maxillary palpus with the 3rd segment a little longer and slightly thicker at the apex than the 2nd, 4th subulate, half as long as the 3rd. Labial palpi long, not styliform, the 2nd segment half as long as the 1st, a little widened towards apex. Tongue narrow and elongate, almost as long as the 1st segment of the labial palpus and split for a short distance at apex, the lobes not divergent. Paraglossae feeble, extending a short distance beyond the base of the labial palpus. Pronotal epipleura visible from the side; prosternum keeled, truncate behind; mesosternum keeled at the middle of the base, its process acutely pointed extending about three fourths the length of the coxae, separated by a short intersternal piece from the metasternum, coxae narrowly separated. Abdomen with the first three visible tergites transversely impressed at base. Legs moderate, tarsi, 5, 5, 5, the anterior with the first four segments short, the 5th as long as the four preceding together; middle with the first four segments short, the 5th as long as the three preceding together; posterior with the first four segments rather short, the 1st a little shorter than the 2nd, the 5th as long as the 3rd and 4th together.

GENOTYPE: *Heterodoxa secreta* sp. n.

### **Heterodoxa secreta** sp.n.

Moderately shining; head black; thorax black or dark reddish brown; elytra reddish yellow more or less extensively infuscate behind; abdomen red, the 6th tergite black. Antennae black, the 1st segment and legs reddish yellow. Length 2.5 mm.

Head suborbicular nearly as wide as thorax (3:3.5), eyes not prominent, nearly as long as the post-ocular region; the punctures very small and obsolete, moderately close behind, very sparing in front; ground sculpture very fine, coriaceous. Antennae moderate, the first three segments of equal length, 4th as long as broad, 5th to 10th transverse increasing slightly in breadth, the penultimate about twice as broad as long, the 11th as long as the 9th and 10th together. Thorax transverse (3.5:3), the sides gently rounded in front, straighter and a little more retracted behind than in front, the posterior angles

rounded, the sculpture as on the head. Elytra longer (4:3) and broader than the thorax, broader than long (4.75:4), slightly emarginate postero-externally, the sculpture very similar. Abdomen parallel, finely and sparingly punctured, finely coriaceous.

♂.—7th tergite sometimes with a small tubercle near the posterior margin; 8th truncate and closely shortly dentate, the outer tooth larger and slightly curved: 6th sternite a little produced, narrowed and rounded at apex.

GREAT KING ISLAND, off north coast: 6.x.48. In leaf mould.

15 Teesdale Road, Leytonstone, London, E.11.

June 14th, 1949.

NOTES AND DESCRIPTION OF OVA OF  
*RHOPALUS SUBRUFUS* GMEL. (HEM.-HET., COREIDAE)

BY H. G. STOKES

As far as I am aware the eggs of *Rhopalus subrufus* Gmel. are still undescribed, so details of these together with other notes may be of interest.

The bug, according to the list of county records (Bedwell, 1945, *Ent. mon. Mag.*, 81:253) has not been recorded for Wiltshire although it appears to have been taken before the year 1892 by Marshall and recorded as *Corizus capitatus* Fab. (Saunders, 1892, *Hem. Het. Brit. Is.*:58) from Nunton and Groveley [*sic*] Wood, but as no county is mentioned after these localities the exact situation would not easily be traced, except perhaps by persons living in the vicinity of these places. Both Nunton and Groveley Wood are only a few miles from Salisbury.

I have taken *R. subrufus* in some numbers at Salisbury, also at Groveley Wood, Wishford; Netton; Whiteparish and Winterbourne, so it appears to be well distributed in South Wilts.

Of the specimens taken, one is of special interest as it has only three joints to the left antenna, the second joint being a little longer and the club a little shorter than the normal length. Oligomery of the antennae appears to be uncommon in this species.

On May 8th, 1948, I swept two males and one female off *Hypericum perforatum* and decided to try and obtain some eggs. The bugs were placed in a 2 lb. jam jar with an assortment of plants and were soon noted to be 'in cop.' On May 12th three eggs were observed, two being laid on blades of grass and one on a ribwort plantain leaf. No further eggs were found and the female died on May 14th. When first laid, the eggs are pearly white, but gradually darken, and at the end of a week are greenish ochreous in colour, with a reddish tinge developing from the end with the micropylar processes and extending along the sides. By the 27th, development had progressed sufficiently to enable the eyes to be distinguished, the colour having deepened to a reddish-brown. Three days later the dorsal abdominal segments were clearly visible as black lines.

On June 1st two of the eggs began to hatch when a portion of the corion at the cephalic end was broken open (fig. 1) and the insect was observed struggling to free itself with a slow wriggling motion. When about half-way out, the antennae, legs and rostrum can be seen extended along the underside of the abdomen and soon the antennae are drawn out followed shortly after by the legs. The bug now appears to be more or less suspended in mid-air by the abdomen and it has taken half an hour to accomplish this much and not until a quarter of an hour later is the insect completely free of the shell.

Soon after emerging, the rostrum extends past the end of the abdomen but is soon covered by the rapid growth of the latter.

I was unable to rear either of the nymphs. This was probably due to the fact that no St. John's Wort was available at the time. Various plants