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## **New Species of *Terapus* from North America (Histeridae, Coleoptera).**

By HOWARD E. HINTON, Berkeley, California.

The genus *Terapus* Mars. is typically neotropical. Three species have been described from North America, *T. mnischechi* Mars. (1862) from Mexico, *T. infernalis* (Fall) (1907) from California, and *T. mexicanus* Mann (1926) from Mexico. In this paper two additional species are described from Mexico.

### ***Terapus balloui*, new species.**

Rufo-piceous, shining. Head concave, sparsely, coarsely, irregularly punctate; front concave, with a shallow impressed line extending to base of labrum; clypeus and labrum smooth, anterior margin of labrum truncate, piceous, sparsely pubescent; sides in front of eyes thickly margined, the margins diagonal above and extending to the median impressed line.

Pronotum one-fourth wider than long, sides nearly straight and slightly convergent towards apex; disk moderately densely, finely, evenly and setigerously punctate; anterior margin broadly and deeply emarginate at middle; anterior angles broadly rounded and slightly reflexed, posterior angles obtusely angulate; anterior marginal lobe slightly longer than posterior and both bordering a depressed, flat, triangular area in the middle of which is a small, rounded tubercle bearing a few yellow trichomes.

Elytra broader than long, humeri gibbous, basal margin with several short, shallow impressions; surface coarsely punctate, sparsely pubescent with the pubescence arranged indefinitely in four rows on each elytron.

Propygidium transversely hexagonal, sparsely, moderately finely, evenly, setigerously punctate, base finely tuberculate, opaque and separated from the apical portion by a deeply sinuate line; apex with a low transverse carina divided at middle. Pygidium about as long as broad, sparsely, moderately finely, evenly and setigerously punctate. Ventral surface moderately finely, setigerously punctate; prosternal keel arcuate opposite coxae and slightly broader anteriorly; no dividing line between meso- and metasternum, mesosternum with a finely impressed, interrupted line.

Legs short, stout, slightly more rufous than body; femora stout, concave on ventral edge; tibiae dilated, broadly triangular, concave on ventral edge, with a few short spines on apex; hind femora broad, nearly twice as stout as middle femora and with



a transverse, rounded lobe at base of dorsal border, on the basal half of the outer side is a large, gradually rounded tubercle; hind tibiae with the apical edge straight, not half as long as dorsal edge, ventral longer than dorsal, extending for about half the length of the inner side of the dorsal edge is a narrow, concave area containing golden trichomes, on basal one-fifth of ventral half of outer lobe is a long, prominent tubercle. Length, 2 mm.; breadth, 1.2 mm.

The *type* (No. 3747 Mus. Calif. Acad. Sci.) and seven paratypes were collected by the writer at Real de Arriba, District of Temascaltepec, MEXICO, in July, 1932, at an elevation of 6,300 feet. Two additional paratypes were collected by J. C. Hinton at the same locality and in the same month as above. Five additional paratypes were taken by R. L. Usinger and the writer in July, 1933, at the same locality as above. All specimens were taken in the nests of *Pheidole kingi* Pergande. Paratypes are deposited in the collections of Dr. W. M. Mann and Mr. C. A. Ballou for whom the species is named.

This species is closely related to *T. mexicanus* Mann, but it may be separated by the presence on the outer face of the posterior tibiae of a large, prominent tubercle.

#### **Terapus nigritus**, new species.

Black, shining. Head concave, very coarsely and very densely punctate. Front concave, with a smooth median line extending to base of labrum; sides in front of eyes thickly margined, margins diagonal above and extending forward as carinae bordering the median impressed line; clypeus and labrum coarsely and densely punctate.

Pronotum one-half wider than long, slightly narrower in front; disk coarsely and densely punctate, anteriorly and at sides more densely punctate; anterior angles truncate, strongly reflexed; anterior marginal lobe longer and wider than posterior; both lobes border a depressed, flat, triangular area in the middle of which is a very large, round tubercle bearing a thick brush of golden trichomes.

Elytra coarsely and densely punctate, slightly broader than long; humeri gibbous, with a prominent carina extending on the sides of the elytra to the apex which is truncate; in the middle of the elytra next to the suture is a small, smooth, glabrous, highly polished area.

Propygidium transversely hexagonal, **coarsely**, very densely punctate; transverse carina near apex thickened and divided at



middle forming two approximate tubercles. Pygidium slightly broader than long, coarsely and densely punctate. Ventral surface coarsely, densely punctate and sparsely pubescent; prosternal keel very coarsely punctate, arcuate opposite the coxae and strongly broadened anteriorly; no dividing line between meso- and metasternum, meso-metasternum with an impressed and interrupted, longitudinal line; meso-metasternum and middle of abdominal segments more sparsely and finely punctate.

Femora stout, concave on ventral edge; tibiae dilated, broadly triangular, ventral edge grooved for entire length; hind femora twice as stout as middle femora, outer-side strongly convex, with a transverse lobe at basal border; ventral edge of hind tibia half as long again as dorsal edge and twice as long as apical edge. Length, 2.5 mm.; breadth, 1.8 mm.

The *type* (No. 3746 Mus. Calif. Acad. Sci.) and one paratype were collected by R. L. Usinger and the writer at Real de Arriba, District of Temascaltepec, MEXICO, on July 9, 1933, at an elevation of 6,300 feet. Both specimens were taken in the nests of *Pheidole kingi* Pergande.

*Terapus nigritus* has the proportionally short legs of *T. mexicanus* Mann and *T. balloui* Hntn., but the robust body and dense, coarse punctation would place it close to *T. mniszehi* Mars. and *T. infernalis* (Fall), from both of which it differs in its black instead of rufo-piceous color. The following table will serve to separate the species:

*A Key to the Species of Terapus North of South America.*

1. Hind tibia with a very prominent tubercle on the outer face ..... *T. balloui* Hntn.  
Hind tibia without a prominent tubercle on the outer face ..... 2.
2. Inner face of hind tibia only slightly concave; outer face only slightly convex; pronotum finely and sparsely punctate ..... *T. mexicanus* Mann  
Inner face of hind tibia rather strongly concave; outer face strongly convex; pronotum at least moderately densely punctate ..... 3.
3. Basal portion of hind tibia not strongly dilated for about one-fourth the length of the tibiae ... *T. infernalis* Fall  
Hind tibia dilated from near the base..... 4.
4. Rufo-piceous: upper surface moderately densely pubescent with long hairs ..... *T. mniszehi* Mars.  
Black; upper surface pubescent only with very fine, short hairs ..... *T. nigritus* Hntn.