Transactions of the American Entomological Society
Philadelphia : The Society, 1867-1877
http://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/bibliography/7830

v. 3 1870/71: http://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/32422

Article/Chapter Title: A Monographic Revision of the species of Cremastochilus of the United States
Author(s): George H. Horn
Subject(s): Beetles
Page(s): Page 339, Page 340, Page 341

Contributed by: Smithsonian Libraries
Sponsored by: Smithsonian
This page intentionally left blank.
surface more coarsely and densely punctured. Length 1.25—1.08 ³⁄₇₀ and 1.12 ⁴⁄₇₀ inch; 32—27 mm ³⁄₇₀ and 28 mm ²⁄₇₀.

This species in its elytral sculpture is exactly intermediate between our other two species eremicola and scabra. The surface of the thorax is sculptured after the style of the latter species but in a more exaggerated degree. The anterior margin of the front is more reflexed than either. It may distinguished at once from either species by having the prosterum in front of the coxae less convex and strongly, transversely wrinkled, as well as broader. The color of the surface varies somewhat. There is at times only the ground color (castaneous) visible, while others have a distinct greenish lustre. Its form is broader and more robust than eremicola.

CREMASTOCHILUS, Knoch.

During an examination of my specimens of the above genus two were found that could not be referred to any described species and the present opportunity is made use of to present to students of our fauna the results of my own observations. As will be seen by the annexed table the species divide themselves very naturally into three groups according to the form of the mentum. The more nearly we approach the Pacific the more acute does the cupule of the mentum become at its hinder angle and as a general rule less deep in its concavity. On the eastern slope the mentum is broader, the cupule deeper and at the posterior portion notched to the bottom. Two California species have decidedly fossorial legs, the tibiae being broader and shorter and the tarsi very short and compressed. These two (Schaumii and angularis) I found very frequently in ants’ nests and in one instance apparently eating the pupae. Several times I have seen large black ants dragging specimens of Schaumii along the surface of the ground toward their nests and on examination have frequently succeeded in obtaining from nests specimens that had previously been dragged there. Why these insects are found with ants is a question to which I am not prepared to give a definite answer, unless as I suspect the fossae at the anterior angles and the finely punctured and apparently perforated patches under the hind angles are glandular and yield some secretion grateful to the ants.

The following table gives the result of a short study.

Mentum plate acutely angulate behind.
Anterior tarsi with last two joints rather suddenly thicker.
Teeth of anterior tibiae distinct; hind angles of thorax moderately prominent.............................................planatus, Lec.
Teeth of anterior tibiae obsolete; hind angles of thorax very feeble. \textit{depressus}, n. sp.

Anterior tarsi normal.

Legs moderate, ambulatorial, tarsi as long as tibiae and only very feebly compressed.

Shining species; apical angle of anterior tibiae prolonged.

Thoracic disc with deep groove on each side; hind angles spiniform. \textit{saucius}, Lec.

Thorax not grooved angles nodiform. \textit{nitens}, Lec.

Opaque species; apical angle not longer than upper tooth.

Head and thorax glabrous. \textit{Knochii}, Lec.

Head and thorax pilose. \textit{pilosicolis}, n. sp.

Legs short, compressed, decidedly fossorial, tarsi short, not as long as tibiae, strongly compressed, claws small.

Hind angles limited within by an impressed line. \textit{angularis}, Lec.

Hind angles not limited within; legs hairy. \textit{Schaumii}, Lec.

Mentum plate subacute behind and with a slight notch.

Thorax suddenly constricted at base; hind angles nodiform. \textit{variolosus}, Kby.

Thorax not suddenly constricted at base; angles subacute and prominent. \textit{squamulosus}, Lec.

Mentum plate transversely oval, deeply notched behind.

Surface opaque.

Anterior angles with a notch on anterior margin only. \textit{canaliculatus}, Kby.

Anterior angles limited within and behind by an incisure, nodiform. \textit{castaneæ}, Knoch.

Surface shining.

Anterior angles nodiform, without lateral incisure. \textit{Harrisii}, Kby.

The first three species have a short frontal carina joining the reflexed edge in front, while the first two have the sides of the head also carinate and a transverse occipital groove and the pygidium elevated longitudinally. The two species just cited are very decidedly ambulatorial from the form of their legs which are relatively longer than any others of the genus. The anterior tibiae are slender, slightly arcuate and the teeth of the outer edge small or obsolete. The tarsi are longer than the tibiae and the anterior pair with the peculiar formation indicated in the table. The dorsum of the elytra is also perfectly flat and bounded laterally by a slightly elevated border.

\textit{C. depressus}, n. sp.—Black feebly shining. Head sparsely punctured with short carina at middle of clypeus and a lateral carina extending from the occiput where it is higher, to the reflexed clypeal margin; occiput with transverse groove. Thorax one-fourth broader than long, broadest at anterior third, sides strongly rounded in front gradually narrowed to base; anterior angles moderately prominent, limited behind by a slight sulcus in the lateral margin; hind angles not prominent, limited within by a slight sulcus parallel with the margin; basal margin lobed at middle; disc coarsely punctured and with a shallow median sulcus deeper and broader behind. Elytra flat, disc limited by
slight elevation, sides slightly convergent behind, surface punctured with elongate shallow foveae, at the sides rounder. Terminal spiracle feebly prominent. Pygidium sparsely foveate and subcarinate at middle. Body beneath more shining, sparsely foveato-punctate; sides of prothorax with distant strigæ. Legs slender, anterior tibiae slightly arcuate, teeth obtuse nearly obsolete. Length .66 inch; 17 mm.

Two specimens taken by Mr. Gabb, in California, probably in the southern end of Tulare Valley.

Closely allied to planatus, which has the hind angles of the thorax prominent and smooth, and the teeth of the tibiae acute. The fourth anterior tarsal joint is suddenly broader than the preceding and equals twice its breadth. The anterior edge of the mentum plate is thicker and in the concavity more coarsely punctured.

C. pilosicollis, n. sp.—Black, opaque. Head convex, coarsely punctured and clothed with long black erect hairs. Thorax moderately convex, densely and coarsely punctured and clothed with long black erect hairs; anterior margin truncate at middle, rather suddenly sinuate within the anterior angles which are moderately prominent; sides rounded and slightly sinuate near the hind angles which are moderately prominent, acute and limited within by a faint groove. Elytra slightly convex, parallel, surface with coarse deeply impressed punctures, and sparsely pilose. Last spiracle moderately prominent. Pygidium convex with coarse foveæ and long hairs. Body beneath coarsely punctured and sparsely hairy. Mentum with an obtuse point behind. Length .44 inch; 11 mm.

This species greatly resembles angularis, but is more convex and clothed with much longer hairs. The main difference between the two species is in the form of the tarsi and tibiae of which mention has already been made.

One specimen from northwestern California, collected by Mr. Gabb.

C. angularis, Lec.—armaeus, Walker, Nat. in Vancouver II, 320,

I have specimens of the latter species taken in an adjacent region. It is greatly to be regretted that the above paper by Mr. Walker, was ever allowed to be placed in print, for besides the absolutely valueless descriptions, scarcely one species in ten (if as many) is really new, the large number being well known common species, some having been described by Eschscholtz and Mannerheim more than twenty-five years ago.

XYLOBIUS, Latr.

X. cylindriciformis, n. sp.—Cylindrical, slightly narrowed posteriorly, shining. Head convex, coarsely punctured, black; clypeus and anterior margin of front rufous. Antennae entirely rufous. Thorax slightly broader than long, somewhat narrower in front, very convex, coarsely punctured, at base a slight impression on each side of scutellum; color black, apex and base margined with rufous, also the sides but very narrowly; hind angles acute not divergent, em-