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CHANGE OF ADDRESS.—C. MacKERRIE JARVIS, 50 Adelaide Square, Bedford Street, London, W.1.

WANTED.—Records of *Oxyceza analis* Mg., and *Xylomyia marginata* Mg. (Dipt. Stratiomyidae).—B. R. LAWRENCE, 31 Sherwood Road, Luton, Beds.

WANTED.—Greenough type binocular dissecting microscope. Particulars and price to H. LASP, 12 Winkworth Road, Banstead, Surrey.

WANTED.—I am engaged in investigating the genus *Colon* and should be very grateful if any collector would let me examine any specimens of *C. calcaratum* Erichs. (particular males), with permission to extract the aedeagus. I should also be glad to examine *C. ruficeps* Kraatz and *C. denticulatum* Kraatz.—D. K. KEVAN, 9 Cluny Drive, Edinburgh 10.

FOREIGN MELIGETHES.—Will any entomologist going abroad, and willing to collect *Meligethes* spp. (Col., Nitidulidae), kindly communicate with Dr. A. M. EASTON, Roadside Cottage, Lower Road, Great Bookham, Surrey?

WANTED.—Wasps (Hymenoptera—Vespoidea and Sphecicoidea) from any part of the world, by purchase or exchange for these or any other insects. Especially desires *Mutillidae* and *Tiphynidae* from Indo-Australian region.—DAVID G. SHAPPIRO, 4811 Seventeenth Street, N.W., Washington 11, D.C., U.S.A.

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'J'engage donc tous à éviter dans leurs écrits toute personnalité, toute allusion dépassant les limites de la discussion la plus sincère et la plus courtoise.'—*Laboulbène*.

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Gerris rufoscutellatus (Lair.) (*Hem., Gerridae*) new to Kent.—During the summer of 1943 I took a male specimen of the above species on an ornamental pond in Gravesend. The pond had only been built the previous year, and it is about a mile to the nearest stretch of natural fresh water. The specimen was among several of the smaller *Gerris lacustris* L. I am indebted to Dr. A. M. Masee for confirming my identification.—T. R. E. SOUTHWOOD, Parrock Manor, Old Road East, Gravesend: February 19th, 1947.

Lytta vesicatoria L. (*Col., Meloidae*) and *Zengophora flavicollis* Marsh. (*Col., Chrysomelidae*) in Essex.—It may be of interest to record the two undermentioned beetles taken by me in my garden at Colchester. *Lytta vesicatoria* L. was found on June 27rd, 1946, on a deck-chair that stood under a willow and small group of poplars. *Zengophora flavicollis* Marsh. was found on July 9th, 1946, on the above-mentioned willow in company with three specimens of *Z. subspumosa* F. It was not until later, when my attention was aroused by an apparent discrepancy in size, that I found one of the four specimens to be *Z. flavicollis*—Desmond Cox, 'Edale,' Ipswich Road, Colchester: February 3rd, 1947.

Empicoris culticornis Deg. (*Hem., Reduviidae*) in Hertfordshire.—During the afternoon of January 9th, 1947, a specimen of this insect was found dormant on the inner wall of an outhouse at Boxmoor. It was captured and was sent to Mr. W. E. China, who verified the identification. This species is not recorded for Hertfordshire in the Bedwell chart (1945. *Ent. mon. Mag.*, 81: 253-73, sp. 176) or in Dr. Masee's supplement (1946, *Ent. mon. Mag.*, 82: 94-5). In all probability it has not previously been noted in this county, although the fauna has been studied more extensively than that of many others.—J. ARMITAGE, Bargrove Lodge, Boxmoor, Herts: January 14th, 1947.

Orthoptera in Merionethshire.—Three species of 'bush-crickets' were taken near Harlech, Merionethshire, in late August and early September, 1946: a nymph of *Mecocema thalassina* (Deg.) in a wood above Talsarnau, *Lophophyes punctatissima* (Bosc.) and *Conocephalus dorsalis* (Lair.) amongst marram-grass on Mochras (Shell Island) near Llanbedr. The first two of these are not recorded by Dr. M. Burr (1936, *British Grasshoppers and their allies*, Lond.) from nearer than Glamorgan; the *Conocephalus* does not seem to have turned up previously to the north of the Wash-Seven line. Dr. Burr tells me in a letter, however, that he suspects all the species will prove to have a more northerly range than is indicated by the records.—C. H. ANDREWS, M.D., 34 Ossulton Way, London, N.2: January 29th, 1947.

A BRITISH AND CONTINENTAL SPECIES OF *AUTALIA* MANNERH.
(COL., STAPHYLINIDAE) NEW TO SCIENCE, WITH A KEY TO
PALAEARCTIC SPECIES OF THE GENUS
(41ST CONTRIBUTION TO KNOWLEDGE OF PALAEARCTIC STAPHYLINIDAE)

BY PROF. DR. OTTO SCHEERPELTZ

Autalia longicornis sp.n.

Near *Autalia impressa* Oliv. and *A. brevicornis* Blair, but differing from both by the more robust stature; the longer and more slender antennae with penultimate joints not or scarcely visibly transverse; eyes smaller, more prominent in front; and elytra more inflated in the posterior part.

Head dark pithy-brown or black; thorax, elytra and third, fourth and fifth (first, second and third uncovered) segments of abdomen clearer reddish-yellow, red or clear reddish-brown, the elytra generally somewhat darker; sixth and front part of seventh (fourth and front part of fifth uncovered) segment dark pithy-brown or black, hind part of the latter segment clear reddish-yellow, extremity of abdomen clear reddish-brown; mouth-parts, the three or four basal joints of antennae and legs clear yellowish-red; antennae to apex somewhat darker reddish-brown. Surface of body nearly smooth and shining; head, thorax and elytra only very sparsely and finely, scarcely visibly punctured; abdomen a little more closely and coarsely and more distinctly punctured; fine yellowish, but scattered, hairs inserted in the fine punctures; the fine hairs on abdomen a little longer, and on sides of elytra more closely placed, than in the two related species. Head slightly transverse, greatest breadth in a transverse line through the points of greatest vault in the front part of eyes a ninth part broader than the middle length from front margin of clypeus to neck; eyes smaller than in the related species, more convex and strongly prominent in front, temples long, nearly twice as long as the longitudinal diameter of eyes, seen from above, strongly and nearly straightly narrowed behind. Surface nearly smooth, shining, hardly visibly punctured with fine yellowish pubescence.

(*A. impressa*: Head as long as wide, eyes larger, not very convex, only a little prominent in front, temples one and a half times longer than the longitudinal diameter of eyes, orbital convex narrowed behind; outline of head more egg-shaped.)

Antennae long and slender; first joint nearly three times as long as wide, claviform; second joint two-thirds as long as but scarcely narrower than the first, twice as long as wide; third joint scarcely shorter than but as broad as the second, twice as long as wide; fourth joint two-thirds as long as and as broad as third, one and a half times longer than broad; fifth joint two-thirds the length and as broad as fourth, as long as wide; the following joints subequal in length and scarcely increasing in breadth, but the penultimate joints scarcely visibly (\varnothing) or not (σ) transverse; last joint nearly twice as long as wide. All joints with scarcely visible fine yellowish pubescence.

(*A. impressa*: Antennae shorter and stouter, basal joints shorter and stouter, fourth joint scarcely longer than broad, the following joints very distinctly increasing in breadth, penultimate joints distinctly transverse, one and a half times (σ) or a little more than one and a half times (\varnothing) broader than long, the last joint a little more than half again longer than broad.)

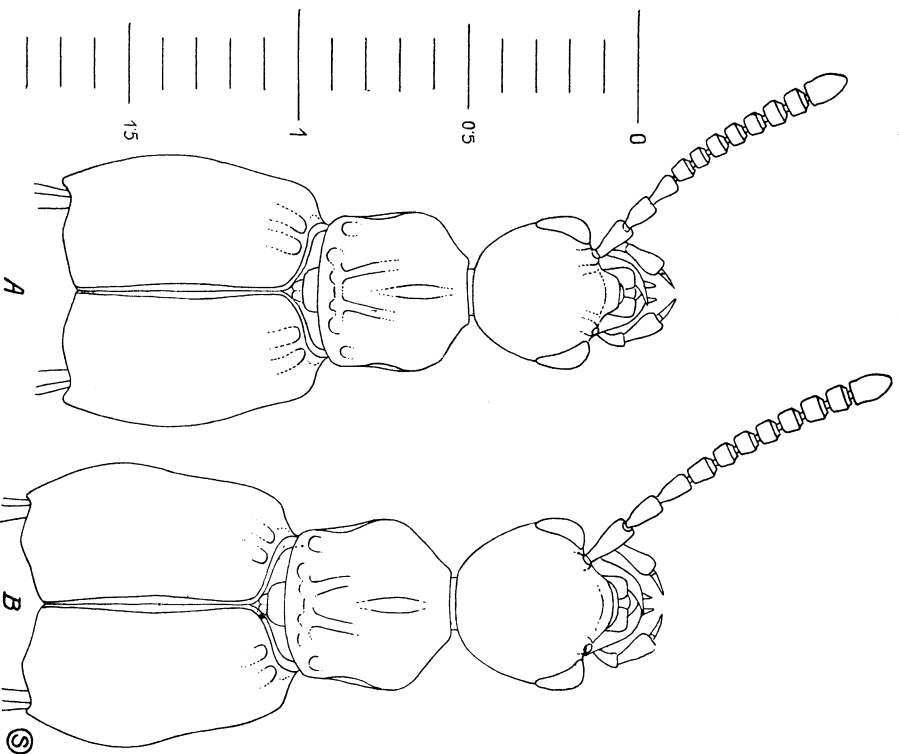


FIG. 1.—Schematic figures of the anterior parts of: A, *Autalia longicornis* Oliv.; B, *Autalia longicornis* sp.n.; scale in millimetres.

Thorax nearly as long as broad, greatest breadth through the anterior third, anterior outline strongly and nearly straightly narrowed in front to the neck, outlines of the sides prominently rounded in the anterior part, slightly sinuately narrowed in the posterior part, posterior border feebly convex, posterior angles rounded. Upper-side strongly convex, in the front part of the middle line with a short but superficial longitudinal furrow not reaching the deep transverse furrow at the base of thorax; in the posterior part on each side of the middle line a short but deep furrow; both furrows slightly convergent behind, reaching the transverse furrow in a little fovea on each side; at the side of this fovea the transverse basal furrow is terminated on each side by a deep fovea; in the posterior angles a little fovea continues the line of basal excavations. Surface of thorax nearly smooth, shining, hardly visibly punctured, a little longer than the head, pubescence yellowish.

(*A. impressa*: Thorax in front more strongly narrowed to the neck, outlines of the sides less prominently rounded in the anterior part, nearly parallel in the posterior part; otherwise the build is similar.)

Elytra one and a half times longer than thorax, with prominent shoulders, outline from the shoulders distinctly divergent behind, in the posterior part strongly inflated and then narrowed to the hind angles, posterior margin a little emarginated on each side above the pleurites of the first uncovered abdominal segment, then obtusely emarginate towards the angle of the suture. Upper-side somewhat vaulted, anterior part of each elytron beside the scutellum with two deep longitudinal foveae, suture with fine border-line, space between this line and the suture slightly widened in the middle. Surface of the elytra nearly smooth, shining, hardly visibly punctured and like the thorax with yellowish pubescence, the hairs on the sides, especially on the deflexed parts, more closely placed than on the other parts.

(*A. impressa*: *Elytra* of the same general build, but outlines of the posterior parts less inflated and hairiness on the deflexed sides more sparingly and less closely arranged.)

Abdomen in general build as in *A. impressa*, the basal ridges of the third, fourth and fifth (first, second and third uncovered) segments as in that species with a strong carina in the middle, also with two more feeble and inconspicuous carinae, puncturation a little coarser and closer, hairs a little longer. *Legs* similar.

Length 2.8-3.0 mm.

Types (1 ♂, 1 ♀, Tullnerbach in the Wienerwald, Austria-inferior (the hills about 3 km. westward of Vienna), 24.ix.1930, found in rotten fungus) and paratypes in my collection, paratypes also in coll. H. Last.

The new species has been known to me for several years and was described some years ago in a paper on Palaearctic Aleocharinae, which has not yet been published and may not now be in existence. In the meantime several specimens of the insect have been found by Mr. H. Last at Beantstead (one specimen, 1942; two specimens in decaying grass, 10.xi.1945) and Ashtead Wood (one specimen with *A. impressa* from fungus, 16.x.1943), Surrey, ENGLAND. I have other specimens from HOLLAND (Valkenburg, Limburg); north FRANCE (Calvados); east FRANCE (Vosges); south GERMANY (Schwarzwald, northern Alps of Bavaria); AUSTRIA (several localities in the neighbourhood of Vienna, eastern Alps of Styria and Carinthia); north ITALY (Lake of Como, Lombard Alps).

I am sure that the new species is more widely distributed and could be found in other localities in Great Britain. It is quite possible that it has been already taken and confused with *A. impressa*. I give, therefore, not only comparative schematic figures of the two species, but also a key to Palaearctic species of the genus *Autalia* Mannerh., which at least may serve to differentiate these two species easily.

KEY TO PALAEARCTIC SPECIES OF *AUTALIA* MANNERH.

- 1 (12). Median furrow of thorax rather short and more superficial, not reaching behind the deep transverse furrow on the base of the thorax.
- 2 (11). At least the third and fourth (first and second uncovered) segments of abdomen clearer reddish-yellow, red or clearer reddish-brown. Head, thorax and elytra very finely, scarcely visibly punctured.
- 3 (10). Head (when mature) dark chestnut, dark pitchy-brown or black.
- 4 (9). More robust; third, fourth and fifth (first, second and third uncovered) segments of the abdomen clearer reddish-yellow, red or clear reddish-brown. Antennae more slender, penultimate joints less transverse, at most one and a half times or scarcely visibly more, at least half as much longer or broader than long; the last joints nearly twice as long as broad.
- 5 (8). Antennae rather shorter and stouter, fourth joint scarcely longer than wide, the following joints very distinctly increasing in breadth, penultimate joints distinctly transverse, one and a half times or scarcely visibly more than one and a half times broader than long. Head smaller in front, outlines more egg-shaped, eyes larger and flatter, less prominent. Thorax smaller, sides more parallel; elytra less inflated posteriorly.
- 6 (7). Thorax clearer reddish-yellow or red, elytra also clear reddish-yellow or red. Length 2.5-2.8 mm.

..... *A. impressa* Oliv. (forma typical).
(1796, *Entomologie*, 3 (42): 25, t. 5, f. 41, a, b.)
Nearly all Europe except the most northern parts,
Mediterranean, Caucasus.

- 7 (6). Thorax more reddish-brown, elytra dark chestnut *A. impressa* Oliv. ab. *obscura* Wendeler.
(1928, *Dtsch. ent. Ztg.*, 1928: 298).
Single specimens among the *forma typica* throughout its range.
- 8 (5). Antennae longer and more slender, fourth joint one and a half times longer than broad, the following joints scarcely increasing in breadth, penultimate joints scarcely visibly or not transverse. Head broader in front, outlines more wine-glass-shaped, eyes smaller and more convex, more prominent in front. Thorax broader, sides distinctly narrowed behind, elytra more inflated posteriorly. Length 2.8-3 mm. *A. longicornis* sp.n.
England, Holland, north and east France, south Germany, Austria, north Italy.

- 9 (4). Stature generally smaller, only the third and fourth (first and second uncovered) segments of the abdomen clearer reddish-yellow, red or clear reddish-brown. Antennae stouter, penultimate joints more transverse, fully twice as broad as long, the last joints but little longer than wide. Length 2.25 mm. *A. brevicornis* Blair.
(1944, *Ent. mon. Mag.*, 80: 20).
Hitherto only known from England (Ashtead, Surrey).

- 10 (3). Head clear reddish-yellow or red, the whole body reddish-yellow or red, only the sixth and the front part of seventh (fourth and front part of fifth uncovered) segments of the abdomen dark pitchy-brown or black. Length 2.3-2.5 mm. *A. rufula* Sharp.
(1888, *Ann. Mag. nat. Hist.*, (6) 2: 371).
Japan, east and south China.

- 11 (2). The whole body (when mature) dark pitchy-brown or black. Head, thorax and elytra rather closely and rather coarsely, very distinctly punctured. Length 2.2-2.5 mm. *A. puncticollis* Sharp.
(1864, *Proc. ent. Soc. Lond.*, 1864: 465).
England, Scotland, Orkney Islands, Faeroe Islands, Norway, Sweden, Finland, Suedes mountains, Alps and north America.

- 12 (1). The single median furrow of the thorax long and deep, sharply incised, reaching behind the deep transverse furrow on the base of the thorax. Length 1.5-2 mm. *A. ryoulensis* Gravh.
(1892, *Col. Mier. Brunsv.*: 73).
North and central Europe, Caucasus.

Vienna VII/62, Neustiftgasse 121/19, Austria.

January 12th, 1947.

ANOTHER BRITISH SPECIES OF *TROGOPHLOEUS* (SUBGENUS *TAENOSOMA*)

(COL., STAPHYLINIDAE) NEW TO SCIENCE

(42ND CONTRIBUTION TO KNOWLEDGE OF PALAEARCTIC STAPHYLINIDAE)

BY PROF. DR. OTTO SCHERRELPITZ

Trogophloeus (*Taenosoma*) *dispersepunctatus* sp.n. (Pl. I)

This new species has by its remarkable sculpture an isolated position in the subgenus *Taenosoma* Mannerh., not related to any other species of this subgenus, and is, therefore, easily distinguishable.

Head, thorax and abdomen black, elytra dark pitchy-brown, mouth-parts and antennae pitchy-brown, legs clear yellowish brown; femora a little darker.

Head strongly transverse, greatest breadth through the points of greatest convexity of the cheek-formed temples, one and a half times as broad as long in the middle line from the anterior border of clypeus to the slight transverse furrow of the neck. Eyes large, rather strongly convex, with coarsely formed facets, its longitudinal diameter one and a half times longer than its greatest breadth, both seen from above. Temples cheek-formed and slightly prominent, rather convex, their length nearly equal to half longitudinal diameter of eyes. Outlines of head behind temples abruptly constricted to the neck, the neck dorsally separated from the head by a slight transverse furrow; breadth of neck three-quarters of greatest breadth of head. Upper-side of head feebly convex, front part on each side with a deep longitudinal impression, forming a hump above insertion of antennae, hind part of head in the middle with a low transverse swelling. Surface of head shining, despite a rather coarse microsculpture, except a space between the frontal foveae and on the posterior swelling. Puncturation hardly visible through the microsculpture, but the diameters of the punctures only half that of the corneal facets of the eyes. Fine black forwardly directed hairs inserted in the punctures.

Antennae rather long and slender; first joint subcylindrical, two and a half times longer than wide; second joint two-thirds length of first, scarcely narrower than the latter, twice as long as wide; third joint two-thirds length of second, but distinctly narrower than the latter, one and a half times longer than wide; fourth joint two-thirds length of third and narrower than the latter, as long as wide; fifth joint as long as and as broad as third, distinctly a little stouter than the fourth; sixth joint like the fourth, as long as wide, distinctly smaller than fifth; seventh joint distinctly wider and longer than sixth, as long as wide; eighth joint a little smaller than the seventh, as long as wide; the following joints distinctly increasing in length and breadth, penultimate joint twice the length and width of fourth; the last joint as wide as penultimate, but one and a half times longer, acute at apex. All joints with fine hairs and a whorl of longer fine bristles on the distal quarter.

Thorax rather transverse, greatest breadth across anterior third, only a little wider than greatest breadth of head, but nearly half as long again as its median length. Front border nearly straight, anterior angles obtuse, but well marked, thoracic outlines from anterior angles roundly divergent to the points of greatest breadth and then strongly, nearly rectilinearly convergent to the posterior angles, the posterior angles broadly rounded, the posterior border very feebly rounded, nearly straight. Upper-side of thorax very slightly convex, in the middle of the hind part on each side of middle line a longish flat impression, the two impressions slightly convergent behind, space between the impressions formed in the forepart as a slight swelling, which is well marked behind; on base of thorax on each side of this swelling a slight roundish impression and on sides of thorax a very feeble, scarcely visible impression. Surface of thorax on sides and on posterior border with a rather coarse round-meshed microsculpture, but rather shining. Towards the middle and the anterior border this microsculpture disappears and the surface becomes very shining. The puncturation is also very scattered, the punctures measuring half the diameter of the corneal facets of the eyes, spaces between the punctures in the surface-impressions as wide as the diameter of these punctures, on the raised parts two or three times as wide, the hind part of the swelling in the posterior part of the thorax not punctured, highly polished and shining. Scattered and forwardly directed fine black hairs inserted in the punctures.

Elytra about three-quarters longer than the middle length of thorax, with projecting shoulders, breadth on shoulders distinctly wider than the greatest breadth of thorax, outer margins straight but slightly divergent to the posterior angles, which are broad and rounded, posterior margin obtusely angled to the suture. Upper-side of elytra feebly convex, each elytron with a rather deep impression along the suture, which is thus feebly cariniform. Surface nearly smooth, but with exceptionally fine, irregular, somewhat aciculate-formed microsculpture, highly shining with strong punctures rather irregularly dispersed on the surface, diameter of the punctures equal to the diameter of the strong corneal facets of the eyes, spaces between the punctures almost as wide as, but in many places twice or more as wide as, the diameter of the punctures. Scattered and backwardly directed fine greyish hairs inserted in the punctures.

Abdomen at the base about a quarter narrower than the breadth of elytra on posterior border, outlines slightly widened backward, greatest width at the sixth (fourth uncovered) segment, this being nearly the breadth of posterior border of elytra; abdomen conically pointed to apex. The third, fourth and fifth (first, second and third uncovered) segments each with a rather deep transverse furrow along the base, the following segments without furrows, nearly simply cylindrically convex. Surface with an exceedingly fine and dense round-meshed microsculpture, but nevertheless rather shining. The posterior border of the seventh (fifth uncovered) segment in a rather broad unsculptured stripe, smooth and very shining, posterior margin of this segment with a fine membranous edge. All segments with two or three transverse rows of distinct visible punctures which bear, as on the pleurites and sternites, rather long greyish hairs.

Legs as in other species of the subgenus.

Length: 2-15 mm.
Holotype in coll. P. Harwood. A single specimen of this new species was taken at Charmouth, Dorset, 23.viii.1925, beneath a leaf of coltsfoot with a number of *T. corticinus* Grav.

The species may be inserted in my key of European species of *Trogophilus* (1937, *Notul. ent., Helvingf.*, 17:102-19) in the following manner:

45a (45b). Thorax not uniformly sculptured, the middle and anterior part unsculptured and rather smooth, very shining; elytra rather irregularly punctured and very shining, the spaces between the punctures at least as wide as but often twice as wide as the diameter of the punctures or even wider *dispersepunctatus* sp.n.
45b (45a). Thorax uniformly sculptured throughout; elytra rather regularly and rather closely punctured, the spaces between the punctures at most as wide as but in many places much smaller than the diameter of the punctures.

46 (47).

Vienna VII/62, Neustiftgasse 121/19, Austria.

January 22nd, 1947.

