

Bark and Timber Beetles from Australia

326. Contribution to the morphology and taxonomy of the Scolytoidea

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Abstract

New records are given for 21 species of Scolytoidea; 14 species for Queensland, three others from Victoria and five species intercepted in Brisbane harbour in logs from New Britain. Description of three species are also given.

Introduction

Bark and timber beetles recently collected in Queensland have been sent to me by Mr. F. R. Wylie formerly attached to the staff of the Department of Forests in Bulolo, New Guinea, now in the Department of Forestry in Brisbane. Partly he has been assisted by Mr. R. A. Yule and M. De Baar. Five species have been taken in Brisbane harbour from logs imported from New Britain, two of them so far not known to occur in Australia, the others being common in the eastern part of Australia and New Guinea. Two species and one subspecies are new to Science, descriptions are given.

Platybus parallelus Fabricius (synonyma are *Platypus dejeani* Chapuis and *Platypus linearis* Stephens), a species very common in the new world and in tropical Africa has been collected on various places in Queensland in great numbers proving that it has been introduced to Australia some time ago and being firmly established now. Two other species from the palaearctic region also have been introduced into Australia, *Xyleborus saxeseni* Ratzeburg an ambrosia beetle and *Scolytus multistriatus* Marsham a species rather important in connection with the spread of the Dutch Elm Disease.

Very interesting are the numerous hostplants of the species examined so far not known to science.

New records of Queensland

Scolytidae

- Acacis abundans* Lea: Mt. Glorious, 25. V. 1973, in dead stem of *Acacia spectabilis*, R. A. Yule.
- Pachycotes clavatus* Schedl: Imbil S. F., 24. VII. 1974, ex *Araucaria cunninghamii*, F. R. Wylie & R. A. Yule.
- Hylurdretonus piniarius* Schedl: Gympie, 2. I. 1973, ex *Araucaria cunninghamii*, R. A. Yule.
- Stephanoderes darwinensis* Schedl: Brisbane, 10. II. 1973, in flight, R. A. Yule.
- Xyleborus agnatus* Eggers: Rocky Scrub, N. Qld., 27. VI. 1976, MV light, M. De Baar.
- Xyleborus barbatus* Hagedorn: Brisbane, 10. VI. 1976, ex *Pterocymbium beccarii*, F. R. Wylie & R. A. Yule.
- Xyleborus ciliatus* Eggers: Rocky Scrub, N. Qld., 27. VI. 1976, M. De Baar.
- Xyleborus compressus* Lea: Sunday Ck., 11. III. 1975, ex *Eucalyptus propinqua*, F. R. Wylie & M. De Baar. — Mitchel, Qld., 8. XI. 1975, in flight, M. De Baar.
- Xyleborus emarginatus* Eichhoff: Brisbane, May/June 1976, ex *Pterocymbium beccarii* log, F. R. Wylie & R. A. Yule. — Brisbane, June 1976, ex *Flindersia schotiana*, *Homalium foetidum*, *Antiaris toxicaria*, *Octomeles sumatrana*, F. R. Wylie.
- Xyleborus fornicatus* Eichhoff: Brisbane, 10. VI. 1976, ex *Pterocymbium beccarii*, F. R. Wylie & R. A. Yule.
- Xyleborus granatus* n. sp.: Brisbane, 10. VI. 1976, F. R. Wylie & R. A. Yule.
- Xyleborus indicus* Eichhoff: Brisbane, 8. VI. 1976, 10. VI. 1976, ex *Pterocymbium beccarii*, F. R. Wylie & R. A. Yule. — Brisbane, June 1976, ex *Flindersia schotiana*, *Homalium foetidum*, *Antiaris toxicaria*, *Octomeles sumatrana*, F. R. Wylie.
- Xyleborus intermedius* Eggers: Rocky Scrub, 27. VI. 1976, MV light, M. De Baar.
- Xyleborus latecompressus* Schedl: Imbil, S. F., 8. VI. 1972, to light, R. A. Yule. — Mt. Glorious, 15. VI. 1972, to light, R. A. Yule.
- Xyleborus perforans* Wollaston: Brisbane, 26. V. 1975, ex *Castanospermum australe* log, F. R. Wylie & R. A. Yule. — Mossman, 11. VIII. 1975,

- R. A. Yule. — Brisbane, 8. VI. 1976, ex *Pterocymbium beccarii*, F. R. Wylie & R. A. Yule. — Rocky Scrub, 27. VI. 1976, MV light, M. De Baar. — Brisbane, June 1976, ex *Flindersia schotiana*, *Homalium foetidum*, *Antiaris toxicaria*, and *Octomeles sumatrana* logs, F. R. Wylie.
- Xyleborus saxeseni* Ratzeburg: Gallangowan, 12. IX. 1973, to light, R. A. Yule.
- Xyleborus similis* Ferrari: Mt. Glorious, 28. V. 1973, ex felled *Argyrodendron* sp., R. A. Yule. — Mt. Glorious, 12. VI. 1974, ex *Araucaria cunninghamii*, R. A. Yule. — Mossman, 11. VIII. 1975, R. A. Yule. — Brisbane, 10. VI. 1976, ex *Pterocymbium beccarii*, F. R. Wylie & R. A. Yule.
- Xyleborus solidus* Eichhoff: Brisbane Sub. Dist., 28. III. 1974, ex *Eucalyptus maculata*, F. R. Wylie & R. A. Yule.
- Xyleborus wallacei* ssp. *indocorus* n. ssp.: Brisbane, 8. VI. 1976, ex *Pterocymbium beccarii* log, F. R. Wylie & R. A. Yule.

Platypodidae

- Crossotarsus mnischei* Chapuis: Rocky Scrub, 29. VI. 1976 (6. VIII. 1976), MV light, M. De Baar.
- Crossotarsus subpellucidus* Lea: Gallangowan, 26. X. 1973, in light, R. A. Yule. — Mossman, 11. VIII. 1975, ex *Pterocymbium beccarii*, R. A. Yule.
- Platypus australis* Chapuis: Umgeb. Cairns, 20.—26. III. 1973, Zwick (Museum Genève). — Mossman, 11. VIII. 1975, MV light, R. A. Yule. — Oak Hills, Ingham, 12. I. 1976, ex *Flindersia brayleana* (Maple Silky Wood), B. Brown. — Brisbane, 8. VI. 1976, ex *Pterocymbium beccarii*, F. R. Wylie & R. A. Yule. — Rocky Scrub, N. Qld., 29. VI. 1976, MV light, M. De Baar.
- Platypus caliculus* Chapuis: Rocky Scrub, N. Qld., 29. VI. 1976, MV light, M. De Baar.
- Platypus granulipennis* Schedl: Mt. Glorious, 15. VI. 1972, to light, R. A. Yule.
- Platypus jansonii* Chapuis: Brisbane, May/June 1976, ex *Pterocymbium beccarii*, F. R. Wylie & R. A. Yule. — Brisbane, June 1976, ex *Flindersia schotiana*, *Homalium foetidum*, *Antiaris toxicaria*, *Octomeles sumatrana*, F. R. Wylie.

Platypus omnivorus Lea: Mt. Glorious, 14. II. 1972, 15. VI. 1972, ex fallen log, R. A. Yule. — NSW-Qld. border, via Kyogle, 23. VII. 1972, ex *Geisois benthani*, R. A. Yule. — Gallangowan, 26. XI. 1973, in flight, R. A. Yule. — Mt. Glorious, 16. V. 1974, ex *Araucaria cunninghamii*, R. A. Yule. — Ingham, Qld., 26. V. 1975, ex *Flindersia pubescens*, G. Swartz. — Oak Hills, Ingham, 12. I. 1976, ex *Flindersia brayleana* (Maple Silk Wood), B. Brown.

Platypus pallidus Chapuis: Brisbane, 8. VI. 1976, ex *Pterocymbium beccarii*, F. R. Wylie & R. A. Yule. — Rocky Scrub, N. Qld., 23. VI. 1976, MV light, M. De Baar. — Oak Hills, Ingham, 29. VI. 1976, MV light, M. De Baar.

Platypus parallelus Fabricius: Kilcoy, 15. II. 1968, ex *Araucaria cunninghamii*, N. Heather. — Brisbane, 12. V. 1975, ex dead tree *Colvillea racemosa*, L. Holland. — Brisbane, 8. VI. 1976, ex *Pterocymbium beccarii*, F. R. Wylie & R. A. Yule.

Platypus subgranosus Schedl: Palen Creek, 16. VI. 1972, ex *Scolopia brownii*, R. A. Yule. — Mt. Glorious, 14. XI. 1972, ex fallen log, R. A. Yule. — Brisbane, 10. III. 1975, ex *Brachychiton populneum* (Kurrajong) sawn timber, F. R. Wylie. — Brisbane, 22. III. 1975, ex *Brachychiton acerifolium* (Flame Tree), F. R. Wylie. — Kenmore, Brisbane, 9. IV. 1975, ex *Eucalyptus maculata*, F. R. Wylie & R. A. Yule. — Brisbane, May/June 1976, ex *Pterocymbium beccarii*, F. R. Wylie & R. A. Yule.

Platypus ustus Schedl: Brisbane, 10. VI. 1976, ex *Pterocymbium beccarii*, F. R. Wylie.

Diapus pusillimus Chapuis: Brisbane, June 1973, ex *Agathis alba*, Harryson & Crossfield.

Diapus 5-spinatus Chapuis: Gallangowan, 26. XI. 1973, in flight, R. A. Yule. — Brisbane, 10. VI. 1976, ex *Pterocymbium beccarii*, F. R. Wylie & R. A. Yule.

Species intercepted in Brisbane Harbour

Xyleborus barbatus Hagedorn: 13. III. 1976, ex *Homalium foetidum* logs from New Britain, F. R. Wylie & R. A. Yule (so far not known from Australia).

Xyleborus fallax Eichhoff: 13. III. 1976, ex *Homalium foetidum* logs from New Britain (so far not known from Australia).

Xyleborus perforans Wollaston: May/June 1976, ex logs of *Pterocymbium beccarii*, *Flindersia schotiana*, *Homalium foetidum*, *Antiaris toxicaria* and *Octomeles sumatrana*, F. R. Wylie & R. A. Yule (a common species in Australia).

Xyleborus similis Ferrari: May/June 1976, ex logs of *Pterocymbium beccarii*, *Flindersia schotiana*, *Homalium foetidum*, *Antiaris toxicaria* and *Octomeles sumatrana*, F. R. Wylie & R. A. Yule (a common species in Australia).

Platypus forficula Chapuis: May/June 1976, ex log of *Pterocymbium beccarii*, F. R. Wylie (distributed from Cambodia to New Ireland).

New records from Victoria

(Muséum d'Histoire Naturelle Genève)

Scolytus multistriatus Marsham: Melbourne, 1. XII. 1973, P. Zwick (introduced from the palaearctic region).

Xylechinus squamosus Schedl: Dandenong Ranges, Nonbulk, 15. V. 1972, P. Zwick.

Platypus subgranosus Schedl: Umgeb. Melbourne, 1. XII. 1973, P. Zwick.

Description of new species

Xyleborus granatus n. sp.

F e m a l e . — Piceous, 2.5 mm long, 2.7 times as long as wide. A new species of the *Xylebori aequaligranulati*, with a sculpture of the elytra similar to that of *Xyleborus subcostatus* Eichh. of the *Xylebori bidentati* but without any prominent teeth on the elytral declivity.

F r o n t planoconvex, shining, densely punctured and with a median longitudinal carina indicated.

P r o n o t u m slightly longer than wide, postero-lateral angles rectangular, feebly rounded, sides parallel on the basal half, apex broadly rounded, without distinct subapical constriction, summit little behind the centre, anterior area convex, densely covered with small asperities, basal area shining, polished, with some very fine scattered punctures. Scutellum small, shining, impunctate.

Elytra slightly wider and 1.5 times as long as the pronotum, sides parallel on basal half, apex rather rounded, declivity commencing after basal third of the elytra and obliquely convex; disc shining, with rows of medium sized punctures, interstices wide and flat, covered with more irregularly placed punctures; declivity with more densely placed punctuation, each interstice with a median row of minute granules giving birth of short semierect setae.

H o l o t y p e in the Collection Schedl.

T y p e - L o c a l i t y : Brisbane, 10. VI. 1976, F. R. Wylie & R. A. Yule.

Xyleborus wallacei indocorus n. ssp.

F e m a l e. — Very similar to the larger specimens of *Xyleborus wallacei* Blandford but remarkable by large conical tubercles on the interstices near to the suture on the disc of the elytra and the upper part of the declivity being rather distant from each other. They are decreasing in size towards the sides and the apical margin of the elytra.

H o l o t y p e and one paratype in the Australian National Collection in Canberra, two paratypes in the Collection Schedl.

T y p e - L o c a l i t y : Brisbane, 8. VI. 1976, ex *Pterocymbium beccarii*, F. R. Wylie & R. A. Yule.

Crossotarsus nitescens n. sp.

M a l e. — Piceous, brightly shining, 4.5 mm long, 2.8 times as long as wide. A new species of the *Crossotarsi subdepressi* somewhat allied to *Crossotarsus armipennis* Lea but much larger, the posterior lateral extensions of the elytra more triangular in outline and the tooth on the distal margin in continuation of the third interstices more prominent, nearly as long as the postero-lateral processes.

F r o n t flat, subshining, minutely punctulate and rather coarsely punctured, subangulate towards the vertex, the latter with a transverse band of rather small punctures bearing short erect setae.

P r o n o t u m about as wide as long, femoral grooves rather shallow and angulate in front, disc shining, with extremely fine punctures, a few setose ones on the sides of the anterior margin, median sulcus short.

E l y t r a as wide and about twice as long as the pronotum, sides parallel on the basal two thirds, incurved behind, apical margin rather wide and transverse, postero-lateral angles drawn out into pointed extensions, a slightly shorter triangular tooth in continuation of the supposed third interstices

of the declivity; disc brightly shining, with regular rows of very fine punctures, the interstices with very scattered punctures of similar size; the convex declivity of a silky texture, the interstices feebly carinate and each with a row of fuscous semierect setae, the space between the setose carinae comparatively wide.

H o l o t y p e in the Australian National Collection in Canberra, one paratype in Collection Schedl.

T y p e - L o c a l i t y: Tarzali, Atherton Sub Dist., 11. VI. 1976, T. Weatherhand, Dept. For. Qld.

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