

## A NEW PLATYGERRIS WITH NOTES ON *P. CAERULEUS* CHAMPION (GERRIDAE).

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In studying some recent acquisitions to the Snow Entomological Museum I find two new forms. One of them is a new species and the other the undescribed male and wingless form of *P. caeruleus* Champion. My appreciation is here expressed to Mr. W. E. China of the British Museum for his kindness in comparing my material with types in his charge.

### *Platygerris asymmetricus* sp. n.

*Size:* Length of males 7 mm., females slightly less; width of males slightly less than 3 mm. and females slightly more at widest place. (Wingless form.)

*Color:* Bluish black or greenish black above covered more or less by a silvery pubescence. A median longitudinal dark stripe, more or less faint on thorax merging into a dark area on distal third of mesonotum, similar dark stripe extending from behind each eye along lateral margin of mesonotum to bifurcate at the rear, the inner branch fusing with the dark area on distal third of mesonotum and outer branch joining a similar band on the lateral margin of mesothorax. A faint median tan line on anterior two-thirds of pronotum. A tan spot on vertex between the eyes. Venter silvery pubescent. Antennae, beak and legs dark, except base of anterior femora which are tan at base. Prosternum and acetabula light tan beneath.

*Structural Characteristics:* Antennal formula<sup>1</sup> of male 1st:2nd:3rd:4th::56:20:14<sup>2</sup>:28. Eyes longer than the lateral margin of the prothorax. Anterior angles of mesothorax rounded but slightly sloping, lateral margins slightly divergent in both sexes. Length of pronotum on median dorsal line is to length of mesonotum as 3.5:12 (♀). Pronotum a little longer relatively in the male. On the metanotum of the female there is an inverted V-shaped ridge with a short protuberance at its apex. The legs of usual form. Anterior femur stout, depressed on front side of

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\* Contribution from the Department of Entomology, University of Kansas.

<sup>1</sup> Measured with Zeiss binocular 1 oculars and A<sub>2</sub> objectives.

<sup>2</sup> Includes tiny basal ring segment.



basal half, especially in the male, a few stout hairs beneath, a trifle longer than the mesonotum on its median line. Tibia as long as femur, curved on distal half, its tip produced beneath the base of tarsus. First tarsal segment one-third as long as the second. Intermediate femur one and one-half times as long as the body. Tibia and tarsus somewhat flattened, the tibia slightly curved and tarsus twisted one-fourth of a turn. Tibia about one-third length of femur and a little longer than the tarsus (13:11). First tarsal segment slightly more than three times the second. Posterior femur slightly longer than intermediate and four times as long as its own tibia. Tibia two and one-half times as long as its tarsus. First tarsal segment about twice the second. In the female the abdomen attains the tip of the posterior trochanters and the connexivum on the right side is terminated by a finger-like process as long as the fifth abdominal tergite, while on the left side this is replaced by a protuberance on the lateral flap or plate. Two transverse antemarginal brushes are present on the last abdominal tergite. In the male the genital segments are subequal in length to the abdomen, the abdomen surpassing the posterior coxae by half the length of the last segment. The first ventral abdominal segment longer than the following four combined. Last ventral abdominal segment deeply depressed, rear margin incised and margined with hairs. The first genital depressed beneath and the rear margin produced into a long spiniform process on the left of the median ventral line. The second genital also asymmetrical, the dorsal portion armed on the left side at the base beneath with a spiniform process lying to the left of the one above and a little shorter.

Described from a long series labeled "Rio Virilla, Costa Rica, C. A., Dec. 26, 1931, Heinrich Schmidt." Holotype, allotype and many paratypes in the Francis Huntington Snow Entomological Museum, University of Kansas, Lawrence, Kansas. Paratypes also in the U. S. N. M., and the British Museum.

*Comparative Notes:* This species might well be mistaken for *Platygerris depressus* White, and was so determined by me until I discovered that the females consistently lacked the left spiniform process at the end of the abdomen while the specimen figured by Dr. Champion has two such processes of equal length. Since Champion studied one of White's types I presume his specimens from Teapa in Tabasco are *P. depressus* White although White's material came from Brazil. Mr. W. E. China has com-



pared specimens I sent to him with Champion's material and reports, "With regard to the *Platygerris* spp. your *P. depressus?* is very closely allied to *P. depressus* Champ. (et B. White?) from Teapa, Tabasco, and if it had not been for the distinct difference in the ♀ processes, I should have regarded them as identical. A close examination reveals the fact that Champion's species is distinctly smaller with the genital segments in the male distinctly shorter and more slender. There are slight differences in the shape and length of the spurs of the eighth and ninth abdominal segments which cannot be described without dissection and clearing. The easiest character by which to distinguish the males is the length of the second antennal segment. In Champion's species it is relatively much shorter, that is it is about equal in length to width between the eyes posteriorly, and more than one and a half times as long as the third segment, whereas in your species it is distinctly longer than the width between the eyes posteriorly, and less than one and one-half times the length of third segment. The relative lengths of antennal segments is as follows: *P. depressus* (B. White?) Champ.: 41:16:10:23 *P. depressus?* Hungerford (= *P. asymmetricus* Hungerford): 56:20:14:28."

*Platygerris caeruleus* Champion

Champion: *Biologia Centrali Americana Heteroptera*, Vol. II, p. 157. Tab. IX, Fig. 25 ♀.

The type of this species is a winged female but wingless female specimens of my series are believed to be this species. I have 29 specimens of this species, all wingless. There are 14 males in the lot and distinguished by very long genital segments. A description of these morphotypes follows:

*Size*: Length of male 9.9 mm., female 8.4 mm.; width of male 2.8 mm., of female 3.3 mm.

*Color*: Black with greenish or bluish green lustre, especially on the pronotum, mesonotum and metanotum which are shiny in many specimens. Sparse silvery pubescence especially on the sides, silvery pubescent beneath. Tan to horn markings as follows: a spot on vertex between the eyes, a slender median longitudinal stripe on pronotum, prosternum, coxae and acetabula beneath, venter of female abdomen and lateral streaks on first genital of male. Antennae and legs black with sparse grayish pubescence especially on anterior femora.

*Structural Characteristics*: Antennal formula of male: 1st: 2nd: 3rd: 4th:: 72: 26: 20: 31. Eye not quite as long as



lateral margin of prothorax. Anterior angles of mesothorax nearly truncate, lateral margins nearly parallel especially in the male and on the anterior two-thirds. Length of pronotum on median dorsal line is to length of mesonotum at 5.5:16 (♀); 5.2:13 (♂). Metanotum without the ridge described for *P. asymmetricus* Hungerford. Legs of usual form. Anterior femora stout, depressed on front side of basal half, especially in the male, a few stout hairs beneath, a little longer than mesonotum on its median line. Tibia not longer than the femur, (actual measure not appearance) not as curved as in preceding species, the tip produced beneath the base of the tarsus. First tarsal segment one-third as long as second. Intermediate femur one and one-fourth as long as body in female, a little less in the male. Tibia and tarsus lightly flattened. Tibia nearly one-half the length of femur in female, (a little shorter in male) and longer than the tarsus. First tarsal segment slightly more than three times the second. Posterior femur longer than intermediate femur and less than three times as long as its own tibia. Females with a fringe of hairs longer than the diameter of the femur on the inner margin near the base. Tibia twice as long as its own tarsus. First tarsal segment about twice the second. In the female the abdomen slightly surpasses the tip of the posterior trochanters and the connexivum is not terminated by finger-like processes. The last abdominal tergite lacks the hair tufts. The first genital tergite of female is asymmetrical, its rear margin bearing a short somewhat curved spiniform process. In the male the genital segments are conspicuously elongate, more than one-fourth the entire length of the insect and nearly twice as long as the abdomen (9:5). The abdomen is narrow, parallel sided and nearly attains the distal end of the posterior trochanters. The first ventral abdominal segment equals following four combined. Last ventral abdominal depressed, rear margin incised and margined with hairs. First genital very elongate, depressed above and below on anterior half, larger on posterior half. Caudal margin not produced. The second genital asymmetrical the dorsal portion armed on the left side at the base beneath with a large spiniform slightly curved process, plainly visible from above.

*Location of Types:* These morphotypes deposited in the Francis Huntington Snow Entomological Museum. Specimens of this series have been sent to the British Museum.

*Data on Distribution:* This morphotype series comes from Rio Virilla, Costa Rica, C. A., and was taken in December.



The three species of *Platygerris* known to me may be separated by following

KEY

- A. Females without finger-like processes extending from last connexival segment. Males with long genital segments (more than one-fourth the length of the insect)  
*P. caeruleus* Champ.
- AA. Females with finger-like process extending from last connexival segment, at least on right side. Males with genital segments only about one-sixth length of insect.
- B. Females with finger-like processes extending from last connexival segment on both sides. Males with second antennal segment about equal in length to width between the eyes posteriorly.....*P. depressus* B. White.
- BB. Females with finger-like process extending from last connexival segment on right side only. Males with second antennal segment longer than the width between the eyes posteriorly.....*P. asymmetricus* Hungerford.

(Nitidulidae)

**Omosita discoidea in New York.**—Six specimens of this beetle were collected by Mr. Lionel Lacey at Pelham, New York, on April 10, 19, 21 and 25, 1931. This is a new record for the state, and together with the New Jersey record of a single specimen (Bull. Brook. Ento. Soc. XXVII, p. 49-50) indicates that this species is well established in the eastern United States.—CARL GEO. SIEPMANN, Rahway, N. J.



Hungerford, Herbert B. 1932. "A new *Platygerris* with notes on *P. caeruleus* Champion (Gerridae)." *Bulletin of the Brooklyn Entomological Society* 27, 178–182.

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