

XXVII. *The Natural History of Lamia Amputator of Fabricius.*
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Read March 5, 1822.

No apology, I conceive, will be thought necessary for offering to the notice of the Linnæan Society the natural history of a single species of the interesting family of *Cerambycidae*, which, in its earlier stages, has never been described by the entomographer.

Of all the coleopterous insects destined to accelerate the decay of timber, there is no species perhaps whose habits are more singular than those of the insect whose history is here detailed. The *Imago* has long since been described by Fabricius from the cabinet of the great and lamented Banks, which is now in the possession of the Linnæan Society.

INSECTA COLEOPTERA.

Sect. TETRAMERA.

Fam. *Cerambycidae*, Leach.

LAMIA AMPUTATOR. *Fabr.*

TAB. XXX.

L. thorace spinoso, elytris cinereis nigro irroratis maculisque numerosis testaceis.

Fabric. Entom. Syst. tom. i. b. p. 276. 34. Syst. Eleuth. ii. p. 293. 60.

Long.

Long. corp. 11. lin.

Exp. alarum 2 un. 1 lin.

Mus. Soc. Linn. Banks, MacLeay, nostr.

Habitat satis frequens in insulis Americae æquinoctialis; in insulâ S^{ti} Vincentii sæpius obvia, thoracis attritu stridens.

Mimosis arboreis gaudet, præcipue *Mimosâ Lebbek*, L. quas castigat ne nimium luxuriantes vicinas arbores ab aere excludant, quarum sic servatur æquilibrium. Ramos etiam crassiores mandibulis abscindit, ovis primum sub cortice puncturâ factâ siphone depositis. *Lamiâ* serratim circumsecante (unde nomen) ad terram ramus vulneratus cadit citoque perit.

Ova oblonga flaventia, cute tenui tecta, acaris infestantur. (Fig. 1.)

Larva (fig. 2.) apoda, lucide ochracea, caput versus incrassata, linea dorsali cinerea, quam contrahit vel dilatat animal dum pascit. *Caput* saturate ochraceum, antice brunneum. *Maxillæ* atræ. *Palpi* parvi rufescentes. *Corpus* segmentorum 12, primo maximo, declivi, antice rubente. *Latera* præsertim anum versus ferrugineo-villosa. *Segmenta* superne subtusque verrucarum ordinibus duobus vel tribus transversis, motum insecti adjuvantibus, instructa; primo, secundo, penultimo, ultimoque glabris. *Tracheæ* ferrugineæ. Ramum excavat maxillarum ictibus sonoris; et ut facilius per varios labyrinthos incedat, nonnunquam retrograda, foramine facto excrementa expellit (*l. c.*). Relictâ demum superficie solâ integrâ, nidoque facto (*l. b.*), metamorphosin subit*.

* Vid. *Observationes quas de Cerambyce violaceo, aliisque phytivoris*, in Act. Soc. Linn., *Entomologorum Britannicorum princeps*, *Monographiæ Apum Angliæ* Auctor nobis tradidit.

Nympha (fig. 3.) ferrugineo-ochracea, parce villosa; spiraculis, elytrorum rudimentis, linea dorsali antennisque convolutis subsaturatioribus. *Segmenta* abdominalia lateraliter prominula. Ad basin antennarum utrinque spina brevis. *Thorax*, dorsum, præcipue autem anus truncatus spinulis ferrugineis muricati. *Femora* pilorum fasciculo instructa, quem deponit nympha se in imaginem conversura.

Imago (fig. 4.) Media in hoc genere. *Corpus* totum cinereo-villosum, flavedine intermista. *Thorax* ruga media elevata. *Elytra* punctis minimis elevatis atro-nitidis irrorata, maculisque multis testaceis adspersa: pagina inferiori nitida, fibulâ* humerali sericeâ. *Alæ* hyalino-flavescentes, nervis margineque crassiore ferrugineis. *Pedes* validi quibus arboribus fortiter adhæret, non nisi vi detrahendus. *Ungues* aterrimi. *Antennæ* longæ. *Caput* magnum, declive. *Mandibulæ* atro-brunneæ, compressæ, validissimæ.

Var. β. (forsan mas) colore subsaturatiore, antennis longioribus; articulo extimo elongato, basali excavato-punctato.

Tempus adhuc observandum, forte enim per totum annum occurrit hæcce *Lamia* in omni vitæ stadio.

LARVA.		Quies.	IMAGO.	
Junior. Excluditur ovo.	Adulta. Nymphæ formam induit.		Obvia.	Ova ponit.
Mensibus.	Men.	Dierum.	Men.	Men.
II. ♂	♂. ♀.		V. II. ♂.	

* Fibulis (hamulis *Kirby*), dum quiescit animal, elytra retinentur.



EXPLICATIO TABULÆ XXX.

- Figura 1. *Lamiæ Amputatoris* ova }
2. Larva } magnitudine naturali.
3. Nymp^ha supina
4. Mas in opus intentus.

Litera A. Ramus mimosæ serratim ab imagine dissectus.

- a. a. a. Partes amputatæ.
b. Nymp^hæ nidus.
c. Foramen quo larva stercus expellit.
d. Rami vulnus.

St. Vincent, April 2, 1821.



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