

NOTES ON SOME CHALCIDOIDEA.

BY J. C. CRAWFORD, BUREAU OF ENTOMOLOGY, WASHINGTON, D. C.

Megorismus Fletcheri, n. sp.—♀. Length, 1.50–1.75 mm. Bronzy-green; abdomen black, obscurely bluish or greenish; antennæ black, scape metallic; face in front of ocelli smooth, polished, the rest of the head reticulated; head and thorax with sparse long hairs, each set in a puncture; thorax reticulated, posterior margin of prothorax, parapsidal areas laterally, and scutellum back of the transverse furrow, smooth; metathorax rugose, with a short median carina and a smooth space on each side near the base; wings yellowish, nervures honey-colour; coxæ metallic, the rest of the legs testaceous; petiole stout, longitudinally rugose; abdomen smooth.

♂. Length, 1.50 mm. Similar to the female; the flagellum, however, light brownish.

Habitat.—Ottawa, Canada. Bred from *Nectarophora pisi*. (Arthur Gibson, collector.)

Type No. 12197, U. S. N. M.

Paratypes in collection Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa, Can.

Dedicated to the memory of the late Dr. Fletcher.

HEMADAS, new genus.

Type *Megorismus nubilipennis*, Ashm.

This genus belongs to the tribe *Metastenini*, Ashmead, and is distinguished by the following characters: Antennæ 13-jointed, with two ring-joints, mandibles two-toothed, clypeus at apex slightly emarginate, antennæ slightly clavate; marginal vein normal.

The following table, which includes the above new genus, will separate the females of the various genera assigned to the tribe by Dr. Ashmead, and correct some errors in the table given by him in the Classification of the Chalcidoidea:

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| 1. Last joint of antennæ spine-like..... | <i>Picroscytus</i> , Thoms.
= <i>Stylophorella</i> , Ashm. |
| Last joint of antennæ normal..... | 2. |
| 2. Marginal vein thickened..... | 3. |
| Marginal vein not thickened..... | 4. |
| 3. Antennæ 13-jointed..... | <i>Xenocrepis</i> , Först. |
| Antennæ 12-jointed..... | <i>Disema</i> , Först. |
| 4. Antennæ with one ring-joint..... | <i>Arthrolysis</i> , Först. |
| Antennæ with more than one ring-joint..... | 5. |

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5. Antennæ with two ring-joints.....6.
Antennæ with three ring-joints.....9.
6. Antennæ 12-jointed.....*Metastenus*, Walk.
Antennæ with 13 joints.....7.
7. Clypeus with a median tooth.....*Hemitrichus*, Thoms.
Clypeus without a median tooth.....8.
8. Mandibles three-toothed ; abdomen basally maculate with
yellow.....*Dimachus*, Thoms.
Mandibles two-toothed ; abdomen without yellow at
base.....*Hemadas*, new genus.
9. Antennæ strongly clavate.....*Habritys*, Thoms.
Antennæ not strongly clavate.....*Dinarmus*, Thoms.

All of the genera are said to have 13-jointed antennæ, with the exceptions of *Disema* and *Metastenus*. In specimens of *M. acanthocini*, Ashm., however, there are three ring-joints instead of two, making the antennæ 13-jointed, so that in the above table this species would run to the genus *Dinarmus*. The first ring-joint is so small that it is easily overlooked, as it was by Dr. Ashmead, and it is very likely that Walker has made the same mistake in the original description of the genus.

A NOTE ON THE HABITS OF APHILANTHOPS.

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It has been for many years a matter of common knowledge that some fossorial wasps store their nests with various sorts of insects which they seize, carry away and place, in a disabled condition, in their egg-chambers for food for their larvæ when these emerge from the egg. A great number of observations have been made bearing on this subject, but much still remains to be learned. It is probable that the habits of the vast majority of species are yet practically unknown, except in a very general way. The following note may have interest, because it is believed nothing has been recorded concerning ant-catching by wasps.

Early in August, 1908, while marooned at Albuquerque, New Mexico, waiting for delayed mail, I noticed one day beside a concrete walk that bordered a vacant lot in that city a throng of large red ants which resembled *Pogonomyrmex occidentalis*. The bunch was seething with excitement, and stragglers were continually coming and going. As I watched I noticed a small quadrate-headed wasp drop from the upper air to the

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