

these years for more material but have not been fortunate enough to find any." This species is marked on the under-side like *Thecla spinetorum* Boisd. and it is just possible that it may be a color phase of it.

Dysphaga tenuipes Hald.

Brief Notes; Record of a Parasite.

BY A. ARSENE GIRAULT.

A small branch ($\frac{1}{2}$ inch diameter) of a species of oak on the campus of the Virginia Polytechnic Institute at Blacksburg, Va., was found infested with several species of wood-boring *Coleoptera*, which when bred, proved to be the following species*: *Stephanoderes quercus* Hopk, MS.; *Micrasis opacicollis* Lec.; *Anthribus cornutus* Say; *Dysphaga tenuipes* Hald. †

The bare and dead branch, and the conspicuous, fine, impalpable, flour-like, wood-dust on the leaves and ground below the branch were the indications of attack. But a single branch was found infested; this was cut into convenient lengths, and put in a glass jar covered with cheese cloth, and filled with moist earth. This jar was kept in the laboratory, and on the following dates adults of *Dysphaga tenuipes* were excluded: 21, 24 Nov., 1902; 11, 14, 17, 19, 23, 28 February, 1903, those appearing on the latter date (28 February), excluded in the green-house, 14 specimens were obtained, ♂'s, ♀'s.

After remaining in the laboratory from 5 September, 1902, until 25 February, 1903, they were removed to a green-house, where the temperature ranged from 90-100° Fahr., during the day. Here they were supplied with fresh twigs; and here they had plenty of sun-light (got very little, if any, before), and soon became active, flying along the sides of the jar as do moths, making quite a distinct buzzing sound, and resembling small *Sesiids* on the wing.

After this, a supposed attempt at copulation was observed, but beyond that, no signs of continued breeding were ever

* Letter U. S. Dept., Agr. Div., Ent., 18 Nov. 1902. Webb, J. L., Detr., by Schwarz.

† Letter U. S. Dept., Agr. Div., Ent., 8 Dec., 1902. Hopkins, A. D., Detr., by Schwarz.

indicated, and this species is doubtless very difficult to rear in confinement, dying in a few days of vain efforts to escape.

Adult exclusion was observed on 24 November, 1902. The pupal integument is very thin. The wings are the last to be excluded, and in order to free them, necessarily, the insect has to bend sharply back, so that the dorsal portions of the head approximate the dorso-caudal portions of the abdomen. After exclusion, the body is pale, excepting parts of the head, which are black. The normal colors appear after from two to three days; a short while after emergence, the minute elytra become black-blue, remaining thus for a day or so.

Larva :—Resembles the round-headed borers (e. g. *Saperda*), but is much shorter and assumes a curled position.

Pupa :—Long, straight, and regular in outline; slightly narrowing at thorax (lateral aspect); cerambycid in form; eyes pinkish; tip of abdomen blunt, armed with small bristles, with which the pupa can move about to a limited extent, white. Length, .25 — .313 inches.

When ready to molt, the hands of an artist only could come anywhere near doing justice to its exquisite and delicate beauty, its varying blends of color. The abdomen and ground color of thorax are a strong straw yellow, while the appendages are nicely shaded with blue; eyes large and bright brown; tips of mandible reddish.

The pupa is formed just under a thin expanse of bark, in a small chamber, plugged with a mass of wood fibres.

Parasite :—Parasites appeared from the infested twigs on the 15 February, 1903. They proved to be males of a new *Plinobius*, and were given the specific name *dysphagae* by Dr. Ashmead, to whom they were sent for determination. I advanced a doubt as to their being *Dysphaga* parasites, after they were named, but as they are much too large to be parasitic on Scolytids, and as the Anthribids had disappeared the previous fall, I think there can be, with reasonable certainty, no doubt of it. Two (2) males were obtained; "the ♀ should have spotted wings." ‡ Type in the United States National Museum.

‡ Letter U. S. N. M., 25 March, 1903, William H. Ashmead.



Girault, Alexandre Arsène. 1904. "Dysphaga tenuipes Hald., brief notes; record of a parasite." *Entomological news, and proceedings of the Entomological Section of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia* 15, 299–300.

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