

ENTOMOLOGY.—*South African bees of the genera Scapter and Notomelitta* (Hymenoptera).¹ T. D. A. COCKERELL, Boulder, Colo. (Communicated by C. F. W. MUESEBECK.)

The types of the new species described herein will all be placed in the British Museum, from which they were received.

Genus **Scapter** Lepeletier and Serville

Scapter braunsianus Friese and **S. leonis** Cockerell

Turner's No. 16, represented by 30 females and 5 males from Worcester, C. P., Lion's Head, Cape Town, and (1 female) Rapenburg, Cape Flats, is a mixture of three different things. The Rapenburg species has light red hair at end of abdomen, and mainly red tarsi, so it is quite distinct from the others. Sixteen females from Worcester agree with *S. braunsianus*, while 13 females and 5 males from Lion's Head are conspicuously smaller and must be referred to *S. leonis* Cockerell, although the recurrent nervures are in most specimens nearly equally distant from the ends of the second submarginal cell. It is now questionable whether *S. leonis* is really distinct from *S. capensis* (Friese), but the latter was based on a male, 10 mm long, from Little Namaqualand, and the males of the Turner species are all much smaller. Hence it appears certain that the original *S. capensis* is a different species, though *S. leonis* may later have been confused with it.

Scapter subincertus, n. sp.

Female.—Length about 8 mm; shining black, the abdomen without bands; head broad, face and front with long white hair, not hiding the surface of the face; mandibles very faintly brownish; flagellum brown beneath except at base; clypeus coarsely punctured, with a deep median groove on upper half; supraclypeal area brilliantly polished; thorax with thin, pale hair, scanty above, except behind scutellum, where it is slightly reddish; mesonotum coarsely punctured, shining between the punctures; scutellum polished; area of metathorax rugulose and dull; tegulae very dark brown; wings dusky hyaline; stigma red, nervures brown; basal nervure falling a moderate distance short of nervulus; second submarginal cell long (much longer than in supposed female of *S. niger*

Lepeletier and Serville), receiving first recurrent nervure some distance from base, the second more distant, but not twice as distant, from end (in *S. pallidipennis* Cockerell the first recurrent is nearer the base); legs black, with the tarsi reddish, and the anterior tibiae red in front; scopa of hind legs all pale; hair at end of abdomen pale, slightly reddish.

Cape Province: Rapenburg, Cape Flats, October 1–14, 1920. (R. E. Turner, 16 in part.) I was puzzled to know whether this could be the female of *S. niger*, but what I have identified as probably *S. niger*, from Natal, is certainly different. *S. niger* was described from Caffraria. The darker nervures, the absence of the dusky cloud beyond the cells, the details of the venation, and the dark tegulae rule out *S. pallidipennis* Cockerell. *S. divergens* Brauns I know only in the male; it has the face narrow; the flagellum dusky reddish orange beneath; tarsi dark, hind legs very slender; basal nervure falling short of nervulus; second submarginal cell receiving recurrent nervures about equally distant from base and apex; mandibles strongly bidentate; first tergite elevated, strongly convex in lateral profile, with a deep suture between it and second; mesonotum coarsely punctured; area of metathorax dull. Found by Brauns at Willowmore. Evidently this is related to *S. subincertus*, but I think it can not be its male. *S. glaberrimus* Friese, among other characters, has a very much larger and darker stigma.

Scapter merescens, n. sp.

Female.—Length 8–9 mm; black, shining, the mesonotum closely punctured and not highly polished; pubescence scanty, not red on thorax above; the abdomen without hairbands, the hair at apex black. Clypeus closely and finely punctured; mandibles black, supraclypeal area polished; face broader than long; antennae black, rufescent apically beneath; wings dusky, with brown nervures, stigma rather slender, dark brown; second submarginal cell long, receiving recurrent nervures far from base and apex; basal nervure falling short of nervulus; tibial scopa pale, not bicolored.

Considerably smaller than *S. braunsianus*

¹ Received August 28, 1944.

Friese and distinguished from *S. leonis* Cockerell by the dusker wings and the absence of red hair on the scutellum, as well as the broader head. The mesonotum is entirely different from that of *S. glaberrimus* Friese. It is smaller than *S. fuscipennis* Friese, without the bicolored scopa. *S. fuscipennis* is described from "Kapland," without precise locality.

Cape Province: Worcester, September, and August 31, 1928. (R. E. Turner.) Seven females. There is a single male, taken at Worcester by Turner in the latter part of August 1928, which should apparently belong to this species, but the wings are only faintly brownish, and the long hair on the posterior part of the thorax above is light yellow, contrasting with the pure white hair of the mesonotum. The legs are black. This is much larger than *S. glaberrimus* Friese, and the stout abdomen does not have the constriction, between the first and second tergites, so conspicuous in *S. glaberrimus*.

Scapter macrocephalus Cockerell is very much like *S. merescens* but is easily distinguished by the light hair at end of abdomen and the highly polished scutellum.

Scapter sinophilus, n. sp.

Male (type).—Length about 9 mm; black, with the tarsi light yellow, dark at end; pubescence long and white, varying to red on thorax above; face densely covered with pure white hair; mandibles black; flagellum long, dusky reddish beneath; face dull; mesonotum dullish, finely punctured, more shining posteriorly; area of metathorax dull; tegulae small, very dark brown; wings hyaline, stigma dusky reddish, nervures pale brown; basal nervure falling far short of nervulus; second submarginal cell very long, receiving recurrent nervures far from base and apex; hind legs long and slender, the spurs very long; abdomen rather slender, moderately shining, the depressed hind margins of tergites colorless; first tergite narrowly reddened apically; middle tergites with thin hair-bands.

Female.—Similar, but stouter, with the legs all black, and the hyaline hind margins of tergites much broader; wings more brownish; flagellum red beneath; hair of scutellum clear ferruginous, of mesonotum whitish, but not clear white.

Cape Province: Mossel Bay, August 1932, 12 males, 4 females (R. E. Turner, 18).

In my key this runs (male) near *S. flavitarsis* Cockerell but is larger, with dark antennae. In Friese's table the male runs nearest to the much smaller *S. glaberrimus* Friese.

The female runs in Friese's table to *S. longulus* Friese, but that is quite different, as shown in Stylops, March 1933. *S. longulus* differs by the extremely broad head and the basal prominence on third abdominal sternite of the male.

Scapter flavipes Friese

Seven from Umtata, Transkei, February–March 1923; 10 from Weenen, Natal, January 1925. The first taken by R. E. Turner (his 17), the others by H. P. Thomasset. The sexes differ in the marking of the abdomen, so that they might be taken for different species. In the females, the short black vertical mark at each side of the red second tergite is characteristic. The types came from Zululand.

Scapter flavostictus Cockerell

Natal: Van Reenen, Drakensberg, December 1926 and March 7, 1927, 9 males, 11 females (R. E. Turner, 15).

Scapter brunneipennis, n. sp.

Male.—Length about 8 mm, anterior wing 6.3 mm; black, shining, the head and thorax with long white hair; mandibles faintly reddish apically; face with very long white hair; antennae long, the flagellum obscurely reddish beneath; mesonotum shining, with large punctures, and a strong median sulcus; scutellum highly polished; area of metathorax entirely dull; tubercles black; tegulae very dark brown; wings rather dilute fuliginous, stigma dusky brown; lower section of basal nervure not arched (as it is in *S. caffra* Brauns); second submarginal cell of the shorter type (style of *S. perpunctatus* Cockerell); first recurrent nervure ending a little nearer base of second submarginal cell than second to apex; legs black, tarsi pale reddish, frons tibiae pale yellowish in front, middle tibiae pale at base and apex; abdomen very stout, black, without hair-bands, the apex with scanty dark hair.

Cape Province: Mossel Bay, August 1932 (R. E. Turner).

Easily known from *S. sinophilus* by the shining mesonotum with very strong punctures, pale reddish tarsi, much shorter second submarginal cell, and abdomen without hair-bands. Known from *S. leonis* Cockerell by the pale reddish stigma and very brown wings. The wings are much brower and the stigma is not so red as in *S. subincertus*. *S. perpunctatus* Cockerell, known only from the female, is very similar, but the stigma is larger and darker, and the area of metathorax quite different, with conspicuous raised ridges. *S. caffra* Brauns, of which I have seen the male, differs in venation and otherwise. There remains the briefly described *S. fuscipennis* Friese, known only in the female, 10 mm long. It is not impossible that our insect is the male of *S. fuscipennis*.

Scapter sphecodoides Friese

Cape Province: Matjesfontein, October 16–21, 1928 (R. E. Turner). I have specimens from Cape Town collected by Peringuey.

Genus **Notomelitta** Cockerell

Notomelitta rufocincta, n. sp.

Male (type).—Length 12–12.5 mm, rather slender, with shining abdomen as in *N. politissima* Cockerell, which it closely resembles, but it differs by having the second and third ab-

dominal segments, above and below, bright ferruginous, the tergites each with a very broad triangular black mark, based posteriorly; the first tergite is sometimes slightly reddish at sides, and the fourth sternite is largely reddish, while the fourth tergite is red at the extreme (usually covered) base. There is a variable amount of black hair on the thorax above, especially on the anterior part of the scutellum. The second submarginal cell has its outer side vertical, but the inner very oblique. The abdominal hair-bands are narrower than in *N. politissima*.

Female.—Length about 13 mm. Abdomen colored as in male. Hind basitarsi extremely broad, reddish, with mainly black hair, but white hair in front, and long white hairs at base. The front tarsi are not unusually long.

Natal: Van Reenen, Drakensberg, December 1926 (one male, January 1927). Five males, seven females. In my key in Ann. Mag. Nat. Hist., April 1934, this runs to *N. politissima*. In the key based on venation it runs near to *N. politissima*, but the third submarginal cell is less produced at end. In my key to *Melitta* in Ann. Transvaal Mus. 17: 76. 1935, it runs nearest to *M. longicornis* Friese, which differs by the dullish, unbanded abdomen. All the specimens were collected by R. E. Turner.

ZOOLOGY.—A new species of *hoplonemertean* (*Paranemertes biocellatus*) from the Gulf of Mexico.¹ WESLEY R. COE, Osborn Zoological Laboratory, Yale University, and Scripps Institution of Oceanography, University of California. (Communicated by WALDO L. SCHMITT.)

Among the nemerteans collected on the intertidal sand flats near Biloxi, Miss., were three specimens of an undescribed species of *Paranemertes* Coe. Only five other species of that genus have been previously reported; four of these were found on the Pacific coast of North America and one on the coast of South Africa. This new species presents such morphological deviations from the others that their description will supplement in some degree the available knowledge of nemertean morphology.

Individuals of this new species, which may be known as ***Paranemertes biocellatus*** resemble those of *P. californica*, found on

the Pacific coast, in size and general appearance but differ in having the proboscis sheath nearly as long as the body, in the character of the proboscis armature, in size and shape of ocelli, and in other morphological details. The species also resembles *Amphiporus bioculatus* McIntosh in having a narrow, pointed head and a single pair of ocelli but differs widely in most other characteristics.

DESCRIPTION

Body long, moderately slender, pointed anteriorly and much flattened in intestinal region. Shape and general appearance similar to the published figure of *P. californica* (Coe, 1904, pl. 15, fig. 2). Size when mature 60 to 120 mm or more in length and 2 to 4 mm in width.

¹ Received October 5, 1944.

Contributions of the Scripps Institution of Oceanography, New Series No. 241.



Cockerell, Theodore D. A. 1944. "South African bees of the genera *Scrapler* and *Notomelitta* (Hymenoptera)." *Journal of the Washington Academy of Sciences* 34, 405–407.

View This Item Online: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/122682>

Permalink: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/partpdf/50289>

Holding Institution

Smithsonian Libraries and Archives

Sponsored by

Biodiversity Heritage Library

Copyright & Reuse

Copyright Status: Permission to digitize granted by the rights holder

Rights: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/permissions/>

This document was created from content at the **Biodiversity Heritage Library**, the world's largest open access digital library for biodiversity literature and archives. Visit BHL at <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org>.