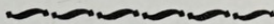


suggest the following hypothesis to explain what actually happens. A female emerges from the pupal stage beneath a rock at the moist shore area and flies to a wave splashed riffle rock precisely where males are likely to be congregated. She is receptive to a male and copulates immediately, the process requiring less than a minute. After mating she promptly crawls down the edge of the rock, enters the water, and remains there to oviposit and die. The whole act goes unnoticed since females are at the mating site for such a short period of time.

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QUEDIUS TRANSPARENS MOTSCH., A VALID SPECIES
(COLEOPTERA: STAPHYLINIDAE)

(102ND CONTRIBUTION TO THE
KNOWLEDGE OF STAPHYLINIDAE)

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ABSTRACT

The type material of *Quedius transparens* Motschulsky 1845, deposited at the Museum of Zoology, Moscow State University, Moscow, U.S.S.R., has been studied and a lectotype designated. *Quedius marginalis* Mäklin 1852 and *Q. pugetensis* Hatch 1957 are junior synonyms of this species.

Quedius transparens was described by Motschulsky (1845:358) from specimens from California. It has not been mentioned in the literature since then, except in catalogues, and was considered a *species dubia* more recently. In his catalogue, LeConte (1863:23) correctly placed the species in front of *Q. bardus* Melsh. (synonym of *Q. capucinus* Grav.), but Henshaw (1885:33) catalogued the species as a possible synonym of *Q. molochinus* Grav. In Leng's (1920:110) catalogue, it was assigned, for no apparent

reason, to the subgenus *Anastictodera* Csy. (synonym of *Microsaurus* Steph.), and this concept was later accepted by Scheerpeltz (1933:1463). I was not able to examine type material of *Q. transparens* when working on my monograph of North American Quediini (Smetana 1971), and the species is not mentioned in my paper.

Recently, through the kindness of Dr. S. I. Keleynikova, I was able to study the original 2 Motschulsky specimens which are deposited in the Motschulsky Collection, Museum of Zoology, Moscow State University, Moscow, U.S.S.R. These specimens are both pinned and labelled in the same way: "Calif."/"*Quedius transparens* Motch. Californie"/red rectangular label. The labels are handwritten (apparently Motschulsky's handwriting, see Horn & Kahle, 1935-1937, pl. XVI, Fig. 23, pl. XXI, Fig. 33) on green paper. The first specimen is a male of the subgenus *Distichalius* Csy. identical with the species known at present as *Q. marginalis* Mäklin 1852 (the left antenna, right elytron, and both hind legs are missing). The second specimen is a male of the subgenus *Microsaurus* Steph. identical with *Q. limbifer* Horn 1878 (the abdomen, glued on a separate plate as received, was dissected and the aedoeagus mounted). From Motschulsky's statement in the original description (1845:358), "trois ou quatre points imprimés de chaque côté près du bord des yeux", it is obvious that the species he was describing had additional punctures between the anterior frontal punctures. Only the first specimen has this character, and it therefore is hereby designated as the lectotype of *transparens*; the label "Lectotype *Quedius transparens* Motsch., A. Smetana des. 1975" has been attached to this specimen. My determination label "*Quedius limbifer* Horn Smetana det. 1975" has been attached to the second specimen.

Resulting synonymy is as follows:

- Quedius (Distichalius) transparens* Motschulsky, 1845
Quedius marginalis Mäklin, 1852, **new synonymy**
Quedius pugetensis Hatch, 1957, **new synonymy**

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