

PROCEEDINGS
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A NEW GENUS AND SPECIES OF DUNG-INHABITING
SCARABAEIDAE FROM PUERTO RICO, WITH
NOTES ON THE COPRINAE OF THE GREATER
ANTILLES (COLEOPTERA).

BY EDWARD A. CHAPIN.

Until 1930, when the writer described as new a small member of the Coprinae, Puerto Rico was not known to harbor a single species of this subfamily of the Scarabaeidae. Since that time, through the interest and labors of Mr. R. G. Oakley, two further species of this group from the same island are now available for study. These two species, one apparently new, are congeneric, though rather dissimilar in general appearance. There seems to be no available genus for their reception.

Canthochilum, new genus.

Related to both *Canthon* Hoffmannsegg and *Bdelyrus* Harold and differentiated from either of these by the formation of the labial palpi; further, from the first by the elevation of the seventh elytral stria into a sharp carina which is lateral in position, and from the second by the structure of the head and lateral portion of the elytron. In both *Canthon* and *Bdelyrus* the first segment of the labial palp is noticeably larger, both in length and breadth, than the second. In *Bdelyrus* the carina of the seventh stria is complete to the apical angle and the carina of the eighth is short and curved, ending before the middle of the length. In *Canthochilum* the carina of the seventh ends abruptly at the apical fourth and it is the carina of the eighth that reaches the apex.

Clypeus quadridentate, the teeth small and acute, the central interval slightly greater than either of the lateral intervals. Superior portion of eye comparatively large. Antenna nine-segmented. Terminal segment of maxillary palp elongate fusiform. Labial palp with second segment nearly as broad as long and larger than either first or third, third (terminal) segment cylindro-acuminate. Pronotum with marginal bead strong laterally and exceedingly fine both anteriorly and posteriorly, posterior

angles evident but obtuse. Prothoracic pleura with strong transverse carina, excavate before this carina for the reception of the anterior femora. Scutellum not visible. Elytra faintly but distinctly striate, striae strongly impressed apically, intervals flat, seventh stria cariniform and lateral, eighth (?) stria cariniform and located on the apparently broad epipleura. Anterior tibia broadened apically, minutely serrulate along external margin, apex truncate as in *Caccobius* Thoms., lateral teeth three in number, spur blunt at tip, somewhat curved, as long as anterior tarsus. Middle and posterior tarsi slender but gradually enlarged as in most *Canthon* Hoffm., middle with two spurs, posterior with one. Tarsi strongly compressed, fifth segment elongate, claws small, simple and strongly curved.

Genotype.—*Canthochilum oakleyi*, n. sp.

This genus is also suggestive of *Deltochilum* Eschscholz in the way that the elytral striae terminate in pits at the apex of the elytron and in the very faint indication of a median discal boss on each elytron in one species.

***Canthochilum oakleyi*, n. sp.**

Black, legs dark castaneous, antennae and mouth-parts pale piceous. Upper surface minutely shagreened, head and pronotum set with very fine punctures (visible on strong light with magnification of 20 diameters) sparsely but regularly distributed. Clypeus with four acute teeth, the inner pair longer than outer, each with a fine tuft of hairs above and below. Front angle of each gena also acute, as in the sexdentate species of *Canthon*. Superior portion of eyes large, separated by more than twice their greatest diameters. Pronotum transverse, broadly curved at base, sides parallel in basal two thirds, apical thirds strongly converging, anterior margin deeply and semicircularly cut out for reception of head, on under side deeply excavated in anterior half for reception of front femora, the excavation bounded posteriorly by a strong carina. Elytra more strongly shagreened, closely adjusted to the posterior border of the pronotum, finely striate, the first four striae (from suture) ending in deep pits at apex of elytron, seventh stria complete and margined in basal three-fourths by the lateral cariniform margin. Eighth stria also complete and located on the inflexed portion and margined by a carina which is complete to apical angle of elytron. Under surface nearly smooth, abdominal sternites closely crowded together along the median line, third and fourth each with a low, shining tubercle near lateral margin, pygidium subtriangular, strongly beaded along margin, basal margin feebly angulate adjacent to termination of elytral suture, apical margin very broad. Femora stout, anterior with a narrow ala along front margin which fails to reach apex, middle with an arcuate emargination on posterior margin near apex. Tibiae slender, somewhat bent and suddenly enlarged in apical fourth, the enlarged portion bearing three lateral teeth and a single stout tooth on under side just above the insertion of the tarsus, middle and posterior tibiae slightly bent and gradually enlarged. Anterior tarsus nearly bare, middle and posterior densely setose. Length 7.5 mm.

Type.—U. S. N. M. Cat. No. 50519.

Type locality.—Adjuntas, Puerto Rico.

Material examined.—Two specimens, apparently males, collected by Mr. R. G. Oakley at Principi Finca, Adjuntas, Jan. 19, 1934, under dung.

Canthochilum histeroides (Harold).

Canthon histeroides Harold, 1868, Coleop. Hefte, vol. 4, p. 80.

Lately Mr. Oakley has collected at Ponce and Adjuntas a series of a second dung-inhabiting scarab that satisfies in every particular the short description of *Canthon histeroides* Har. His collections are as follows: One specimen from Adjuntas, Mar. 24, 1933, one from the same place Apr. 18, 1933, four from Pietri Finca, Adjuntas, Jan. 4, 1934, and twenty-five from Wersching Finca, Ponce, Jan. 23, 1934, all in or under dung. Harold's description, though brief, makes a point of the broad elytral epipleura with a single longitudinal carina. That is a fair description of the condition which obtains in *Canthochilum* but does not at all fit any species of *Canthon* known to the writer.

This species, with two others, *gundlachi* and *pygmaeus*, were described by Harold as coming from Cuba. No collector is mentioned so it is impossible to state definitely that they reached Harold through Gundlach. So far as I am able to ascertain, no one of the three has since been collected in Cuba. In 1930, the writer described as *Canthonella parva*, new genus and new species, a series of individuals from Puerto Rico and at that time compared it with *Canthon pygmaeus* Harold. Certain differences between the specimens at hand and the original description of *C. pygmaeus* were pointed out as justification for a new name.

Canthochilum gundlachi (Harold).

Canthon gundlachi Harold, 1868, Coleop. Hefte, vol. 4, p. 80.

Though I have seen nothing that at all favorably compares with the description, I do not hesitate to refer this species to *Canthochilum*. Thus the list of *Canthonides* from the Greater Antilles now stands:

<i>Canthon callosus</i> Harold	Haiti.
“ <i>signifer</i> Harold	Haiti.
“ <i>violaceus</i> Olivier	Haiti.
<i>Canthonella parva</i> Chapin	Puerto Rico
“ <i>pygmaea</i> (Harold)	Cuba.
<i>Canthochilum oakleyi</i> , n. sp.	Puerto Rico.
“ <i>histeroides</i> (Harold)	Cuba, Puerto Rico.
“ <i>gundlachi</i> (Harold)	Cuba.



Chapin, Edward A. 1934. "A new genus and species of dung inhabiting Scarabaeidae from Puerto Rico, with notes on the Coprinae of the greater Antilles." *Proceedings of the Biological Society of Washington* 47, 99–102.

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