

Somewhat like a small *P. funestus*, Pér., but in the latter species the prothorax is distinctly broader in relation to the elytra, its posterior angles are sharp right angles and its anterior ones acute; and the elytra fit less closely to the prothorax.

Found feeding on young wheat.

**Protothropus instabilis**, sp. nov. (Plate xix, fig. 2).

♂ ♀. Colouring variable; piceous, with dense grey scaling; the prothorax with a more brownish median lyre-shaped patch and two indistinct sinuous stripes on each side of the same colour; the elytra with interval 1 always fawn coloured, elsewhere irregularly mottled with dark brown; usually pale spots stand out rather conspicuously on intervals 3 and 5 behind the middle, and sometimes these are linked up to form a continuous oblique pale band; occasionally the elytra are distinctly striped, intervals 3 and 5 being almost entirely dark brown and the rest (except 1) light grey.

*Head* separated from the rostrum by a slightly sinuate stria that reaches the sides, the forehead almost flat, with a single deep furrow and the sculpturing quite hidden by the scaling, and set with obliquely raised flattened setae; the eyes not very prominent, deepest far behind the middle, the posterior edge of the orbit not projecting. *Rostrum* distinctly broader than long, not very strongly narrowed in front, the sides almost straight and with a slight rounded projection above the apex of the scrobe; the upper surface nearly flat, with a shallow median depression in the apical half, and without any distinct carina; the mandibles not squamose. *Antennae* with joint 1 of the funicle much longer and broader than 2, which is as long as 3 and 4 together, 3-7 transverse, 7 as broad as 1. *Prothorax* about twice as broad as long, broadest at the middle, the sides very strongly (subangulately) rounded, the base slightly arcuate, with the basal angles rounded off, no broader than the apex, which is truncate; the upper surface flat longitudinally and smooth, the sculpturing completely hidden by scaling, except for a shallow median stria, which is abbreviated at both ends. *Elytra* oblong-ovate, the sides obtusely angulated near the base and from there subparallel to beyond the middle, broadly rounded behind, with the base very shallowly sinuate and the basal angles not projecting; the shallow striae contain separated punctures that are clearly visible through the scaling; the intervals broad, almost flat, finely coriaceous, and densely clothed with almost circular overlapping fluted scales (of the same size as those on the prothorax) and each with a single row of raised brownish scale-like setae, which become longer and more erect behind, a few across the top of the declivity being white. *Legs* densely clothed with scales and sub-recumbent scale-like setae; the front tibiae only slightly incurved at the apex, with two spines on the inner face, and an apical row of three small and three stout teeth and two stout ones on the outer edge; the hind tibiae with three spines internally on the apical half and the corbels densely squamose. *Sternum* with the mesepisterna narrowly separated from the elytra.

*Length*, 3-3.5 mm.; *breadth*, 1.75-2 mm.

TRANSVAAL: Nelspruit, 25.ix.1918.

Described from ten specimens.



This species differs from typical forms of the genus in the following points :— the obliteration of the longitudinal impressions on the lower surface of the rostrum ; the extension of the transverse cephalic stria to the lateral margin ; the narrowness of the basal margin of the prothorax ; and the humeral angulation on the elytra. In all these characters it agrees with *Bradybamon*, Mshl. (Ann. Mag. Nat. Hist. (9) i, 1919, p. 9), from which however it differs abundantly in the structure of the epistome, mentum, eyes, venter, etc.

Recorded as injuring the foliage of young orange trees.

**Eremnus horticola**, sp. nov. (Plate xix, fig. 3).

♂ ♀. Colour black, densely clothed with sandy grey scaling, irregularly mottled above with brown markings.

*Head* with the rugose sculpturing entirely concealed by the scaling ; the forehead flattened, as broad as the base of the rostrum and with a central fovea. *Rostrum* parallel-sided at the base, then gradually widening to the apex, very deeply compressed behind the scrobes, leaving a raised dorsal area with perpendicular sides, which rapidly narrows from the apex almost to a point at the base ; the dorsal area broadly impressed in the apical half and rugosely punctate, the punctures hidden by almost circular large overlapping fluted scales. *Antennae* with the scape gently curved just below the middle and slightly exceeding the hind margin of the eye ; the funicle with joint 2 half as long again as 1, joints 3–6 gradually diminishing, and 7 as long as but broader than 4 ; the club as long as the three preceding joints. *Prothorax* half as broad again as the median length, the sides rounded, broadest before the middle, deeply constricted and broadly sulcate transversely near the apex ; the basal margin slightly arcuate, the apex broadly sinuate dorsally, the postocular lobes broad but rather short ; the upper surface uneven, the central area granulato-punctate, with four foveae forming the corners of a transverse parallelogram and with a shallow central furrow towards the base ; on each side of the central area a very broad and deep furrow, bounded externally by a sharp carina, beyond which the surface is rugosely granulate ; all the granules covered with scaling. *Elytra* rather broadly ovate in ♀, narrower in ♂, broadest about the middle and obtusely pointed behind ; the dorsal outline only slightly curved, the posterior declivity very steep and curving inwards near the apex, which is hidden from above (especially in the ♀) ; the basal margin gently sinuate and vertically truncate, almost marginate for a short distance on each side of the suture ; the striae shallow and with separated shallow punctures, which are partly hidden by the scaling ; the intervals moderately convex, the alternate ones higher at the base, and the suture obtusely elevated on the declivity, less so in ♂ than in ♀ ; the scales much smaller than those on the prothorax, almost circular, fluted and slightly overlapping, the short recumbent scale-like setae irregularly disposed. *Legs* with dense brown scaling and pale recumbent scale-like setae ; the femora with a pale band on the thickest portion and each with a small tooth.

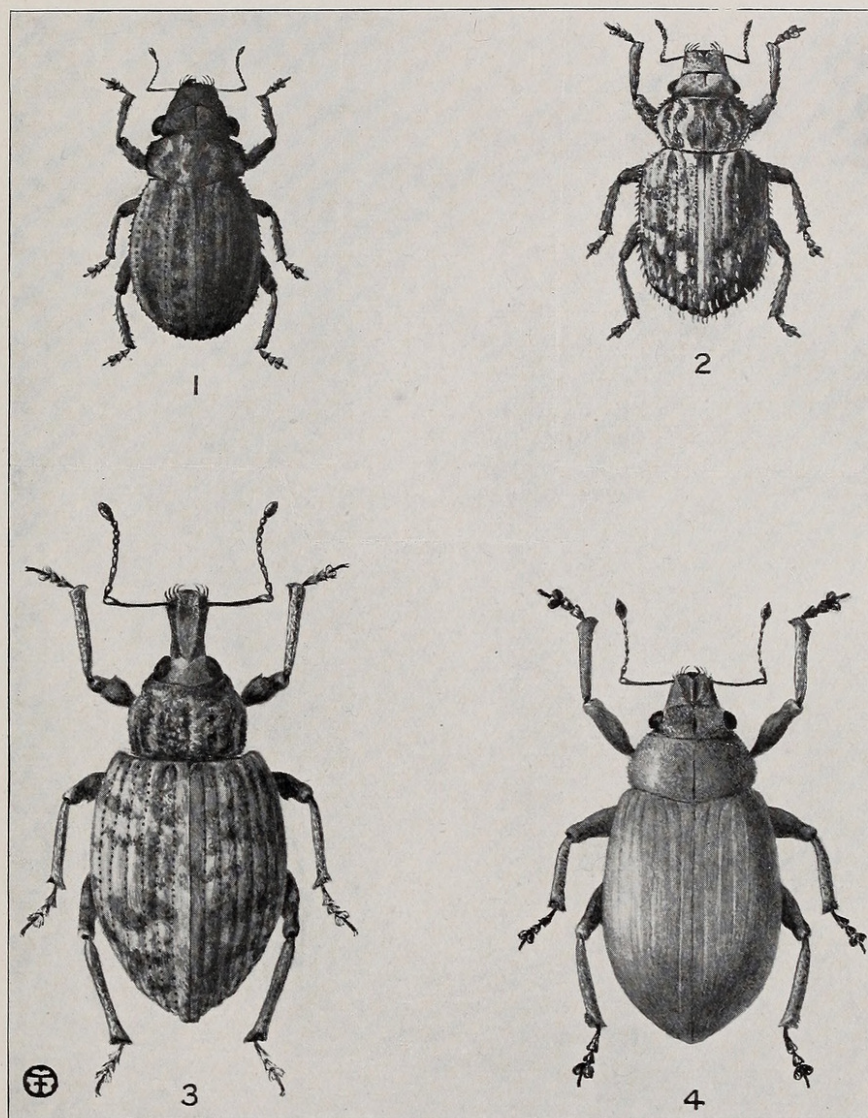
*Length*, 7–8 mm. ; *breadth*, 3.25–5 mm.

ORANGE FREE STATE : Bloemfontein, l.xii.1916.

Described from eight specimens.

Found feeding on dahlias and chrysanthemums.





INJURIOUS SOUTH AFRICAN CURCULIONIDÆ.

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| 1. <i>Protostrophus noxius</i> , Mshl., sp.n. | 2. <i>Protostrophus instabilis</i> , Mshl., sp.n. |
| 3. <i>Eremnus horticola</i> , Mshl., sp.n.    | 4. <i>Protostrophus planatus</i> , Mshl., sp.n.   |







1920. "Some injurious South African weevils." *Bulletin of entomological research* 10, 273–276. <https://doi.org/10.1017/S0007485300044151>.

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