ENTOMOLOGY.—*Seven new galerucid beetles from the West Indies.* DORIS H. BLAKE, Arlington, Va.

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Six of the seven new species of Galerucinae from the West Indies described in this paper were collected by Fernando de Zayas in Cuba. He has been collecting insects there for many years until he has a large number which may in time form the nucleus of a National Collection of Cuba.

Monocesta cubensis, n. sp.

Fig. 4

About 6 mm in length, elongate oblong, the elytra covered wth fine pale pubescence, prothorax with a transverse groove, dirty yellowish brown, the head with a piceous band on either side, leaving only a narrow pale vertex; elytra with broad dark humeral vitta having a violet lustre and extending to the apex and uniting with a narrow marginal vitta, a shorter subsutural vitta uniting across the base with the others but not reaching the apex; breast and abdomen except tip dark, legs and antennae bicolored.

Head with a broad piceous band extending on either side from occiput about eye, leaving a narrow pale yellow brown stripe down front; mouthparts deep brown, occiput smooth with a few short hairs at base of head, frontal tubercles distinct. Antennae with only the six basal joints present in the single specimen, these pale at base, piceous at apex, second and third joints subequal, fourth as long as second and third together, fifth shorter than fourth. Prothorax approximately twice as broad as long, almost rectangular with a strong tooth at each angle, a transverse median sulcus and a smaller one in the middle over the occiput; surface shining, impuncate, yellowish brown. Scutellum dark with a violaceous luster, densely pubescent. Elytra elongate, not perceptibly wider apically, humeri prominent, a short intrahumeral sulcus, faint subcostate ridges along the middle, surface shining feebly beneath the very fine and appressed pale pubescence, and densely, finely, and shallowly punctate; pale yellow-brown with a broad subsutural dark vitta having a violaceous luster and not reaching apex, a broad lateral vitta from humerus to apex and a marginal vitta uniting at humerus and apical curve with the lateral vitta. Body beneath with breast and abdomen except the tip dark. Legs having the anterior and middle femora pale with a median and apical dark area, the posterior femora dark at apex, anterior tibiae dark on one side, middle and posterior tibiae dark at base and apex, tarsi with apex of each joint dark. Length 6 mm; width 2.3 mm.

Type, female, in collection of F. de Zayas, from La Breña, Moa, Oriente Province, Cuba, collected by Fernando de Zayas and Pastor Alayo.

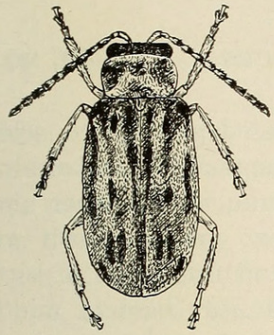
Remarks.—One species of *Coelomera* has been described from Cuba by Suffrian, *C. liturata*, and although the description resembles somewhat the present species, the beetle is evidently a true *Coelomera* in that the third antennal joint is twice as long as the second. In addition only two washed-out pale vittae are on the elytra, and the elytra are somewhat widened behind, which is not the case in the present species. This is the first *Monocesta* known from the West Indies. In Clark's classification of the genus it belongs to Division B, the smaller, more parallel-sided beetles, with the elytra not postmedially dilated.

Galerucella melanocephala, n. sp.

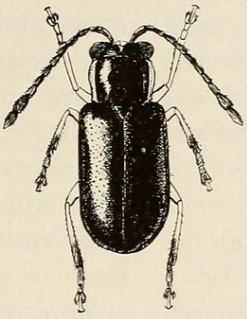
Fig. 7

About 5 mm in length, oblong oval, covered with short, pale, closely appressed pubescence, the elytra more densely and coarsely punctate than the prothorax, the prothorax depressed at sides and middle; pale yellow-brown, the head more or less black over occiput, antennae with apices of joints 1 to 7 black, rest dark; femora, tibiae and tarsi dark at apices, elytra with three pale reddish brown vittae on each, becoming indistinct before apex.

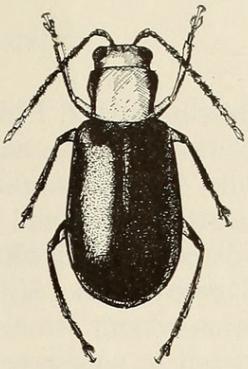
Head with interocular space more than half its width, a median line down occiput to frontal tubercles, upper part of head dull, closely punctate, and covered with pale pubescence; interantennal area flat, upper part of head dull black usually, sometimes dark on either side with a pale area between, from tubercles to labrum pale, labrum dark. Antennae not extending to middle of elytra, stout, the third joint longest, pale with the apices of joints 1 to 7 black,



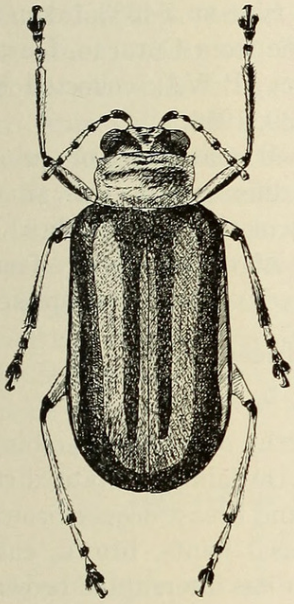
1. Galerucella spiloptera



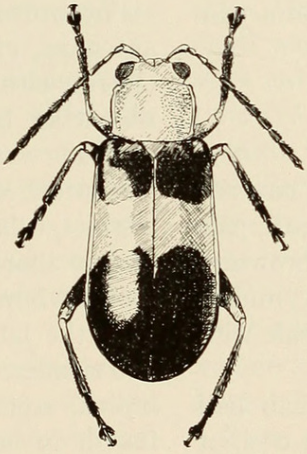
2. Ectmesopus zayasi



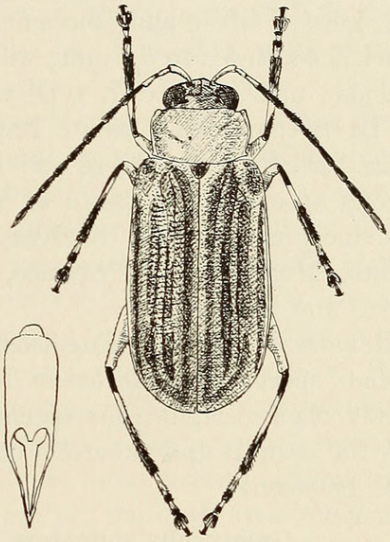
3. Ectmesopus nigrolimbatus



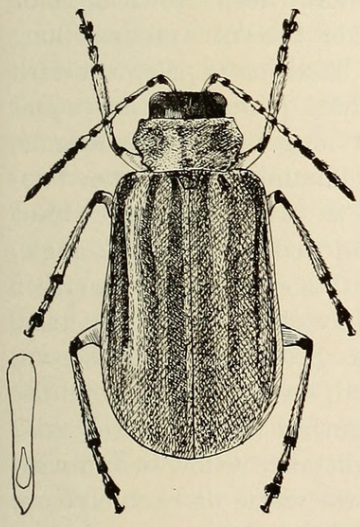
4. Monocesta cubensis



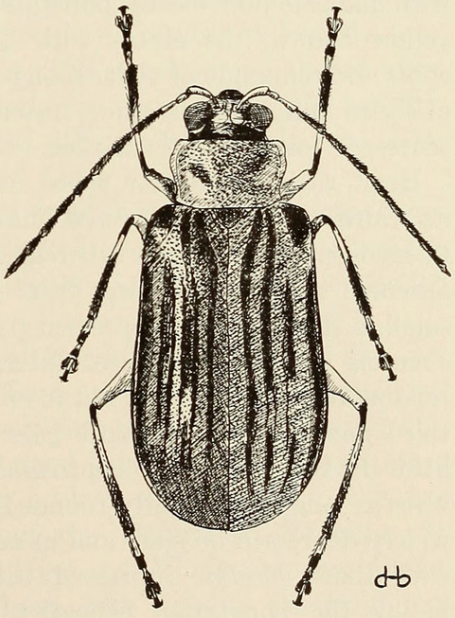
5. Leptonesiotes quadrimaculata



6. Chthoneis vittata



7. Galerucella melanocephala



8. Chthoneis vittata ♀?

FIGS. 1–8.—West Indian Galerucinae.

8 to 11 entirely dark. Prothorax twice as wide as long, widely depressed at sides and down the middle, lateral margin somewhat angulate, a small tooth at basal and apical angles; surface punctate, and covered with pale appressed pubescence, entirely pale. Scutellum squarish, pale. Elytra densely and strongly punctate, covered with short pale pubescence, through which on the pale yellow brown surface the punctures are apparent; three rather narrow pale reddish brown vittae on each elytron, becoming indistinct before apex, remnants of another below humerus on the side, not apparent from above. Body beneath pale with the breast and area about coxae a little darker; legs pale, the apices of femora, knee of tibiae and apices of tibiae and tarsi black. Length 5.3 to 5.8 mm; width 2.2 mm.

Type, male, U.S.N.M. type no. 64684, taken at La Breña, Moa, Oriente Province, Cuba, in June 1954 by F. de Zayas and Pastor Alayo. A second specimen was taken at Yunque, Oriente Province, in July 1955 by Zayas, and a third at Piloto, Moa, Oriente Province, June 1954, by Zayas and Alayo.

Remarks.—This is distinguished from the other Cuban species of *Galerucella* by the black or partly black occiput (one specimen from Piloto has the occiput and tubercles black with a pale area between).

Galerucella spiloptera, n. sp.

Fig. 1

About 4 mm in length, oblong oval, covered with fine pale pubescence, punctate beneath, pale yellow brown, the elytra with deep brownish spots and remnants of vittae along suture, middle of elytra and along the sides; antennae pale with apices of joints a little darker.

Head with interocular space more than half its width, a median depressed line down occiput to inconspicuous frontal tubercles, area between antennal sockets flat, lower front short, labrum small, a short, closely appressed pale pubescence covering occipital sculpture. Antennae stout, extending below humeri but not to middle of elytra, third joint longest, all joints pale with apices a little darker. Prothorax approximately twice as wide as long with slightly rounded sides, surface widely depressed on sides and in middle, covered with short, closely appressed pale pubescence hiding the punctation beneath; entirely pale. Scutellum pale. Elytra densely and strongly punctate, the punctures visible through the dense, fine, closely appressed pubescence, a long incurving intrahumeral depression, another along the suture below scutellum, and another along the side before the apex; yellow brown with cinnamon brown spots and fragments of vittae along the suture, a spot near base in middle, another half way down and two elongate ones before apex, a spot covering humerus and extending down the side, more or less interrupted to apical curve. Body beneath a little deeper brown than upper surface, shining, thinly pubescent. Legs entirely pale. Length 4.2 mm; width 1.8 mm.

Type, male, U.S.N.M. type no. 64683, taken in Miami, Fla., from a plane from Curaçao, Dutch West Indies, via Jamaica, B.W.I., collected by W. F. Buren on March 29, 1946.

Remarks.—The spotted markings, or interrupted elytral vittae, differentiate this small species from the others in the West Indies. It somewhat resembles *G. interrupta* Jacoby from South America, a larger, less pubescent species.

Chthoneis vittata, n. sp.

Figs. 6, 8

About 5 mm in length, oblong oval, shiny, densely punctate, the elytra faintly costate, dirty yellow brown, the head and breast deeper brown, antennae, except the basal joints, brown, each elytron with four more or less interrupted brownish vittae, tibiae and tarsi bicolored.

Head with interocular space approximately half width of head, frontal tubercles large and distinct, a large shallow fovea on each side near eye, a short, narrow carina between antennal sockets, lower front short; deep brown in color with the labrum darker brown. Antennae long and slender, the three basal joints pale, rest dark brown, second and third joints together equal fourth in length, rest long but not so long as fourth, and gradually diminishing a little. Prothorax almost twice as wide as long, widest apically with a broad tooth at apical angle, disk a little uneven with a slight bump on either side near margin, surface shiny, finely punctate, entirely yellow-brown. Scutellum dark brown. Elytra rather depressed, several costae more distinct in apical half; surface shiny, densely and somewhat rugosely punctate; yellow brown with four deep reddish brown vittae on each elytron, the second and third being interrupted before apex, and the lateral one broadening to cover humerus. Epipleura vanishing soon after the

middle. Body beneath pale with breast in part deep brown and tibiae at knee and towards apex dark, the tarsal joints pale at base and dark at apex. Coxal cavities open, claws appendiculate. Length 5.2 mm; width 2 mm.

Type, male, U.S.N.M. type no. 64685, from Piloto, Moa, Oriente Province, Cuba, collected in June 1954 by F. de Zayas and Pastor Alayo. One paratype in collection of F. de Zayas.

Remarks.—This third species of *Chthoneis* has been collected by Zayas and Alayo in the mountains of Oriente Province, Cuba. This one differs from the other two West Indian species in being vittate, but is of the same dirty yellowish brown coloration otherwise. The aedeagus bears a strong resemblance to that of *C. insulae* Blake, also from Cuba. A specimen collected at Gran Tierra, Moa, Oriente Province, on June 5, 1951, by Zayas is considerably larger (length 7 mm; width 2.8 mm), and darker in coloring. The prothorax in relation to the elytra is not so wide. Unfortunately only one specimen, a female, is at hand, and it is not clear from this single specimen whether this is a distinct species or merely a large female specimen of *C. vittata*. A drawing has been made of it.

Ectmesopus zayasi, n. sp.

Fig. 2

About 2 mm in length, narrowly oblong, shining, deep blue above except for the wide pale margin on the prothorax and the pale lower part of the face, the legs pale with apices of middle and posterior tibiae and tarsi brownish; lower surface pale, the breast a bit darker. Antennae in male with the two terminal joints enlarged and middle tibiae notched near apex.

Head with interocular space approximately half width of head, upper part piceous with fine punctures, tubercles and lower front pale yellow; tubercles distinct, a narrow carina down lower front. Antennae in male with tenth and eleventh joints enlarged, dark brown, the basal joints a little paler. Prothorax narrow, a little wider than long, with nearly straight sides, without depressions, shining deep piceous with a bluish luster, the margins pale yellow; impunctate. Scutellum dark. Elytra shining deep blue with distinct punctation. Body beneath pale, the breast a little darker, legs pale with the apical half of middle and posterior tibiae and tarsi deeper brown. Middle tibiae in male notched. Length 2 mm; width 0.9 mm.

Type, male, from Somorrostro, San José de las Lajas, Havana Province, Cuba, collected by F. de Zayas, and in his collection.

Remarks.—None of the other species of *Ectmesopus* so far described except *E. tristis* Blake, which is entirely dark, has so nearly dark a pronotum, in this case only the margin on the sides is pale. The usual abnormality of the male antennae is in the last two thickened joints.

Ectmesopus nigrolimbatus, n. sp.

Fig. 3

About 3.5 mm in length, elongate oblong-oval, shining, the elytra densely and distinctly punctate, pale reddish yellow with the eight basal antennal joints darker, the femora with a dark streak above, tibiae and tarsi dark, sides of pronotum narrowly dark, elytra deep blue.

Head with interocular space half width of head, occiput shining and smooth, very finely punctate, frontal tubercles well defined, a narrow carina between antennal sockets running down front. Antennae not reaching the middle of the elytra, third joint a little longer than second, about half as long as fourth; basal eight joints deep brown, apical three reddish yellow. Prothorax nearly as long as wide, with slightly curved sides, disk not depressed but smoothly convex, basal angles oblique; pale reddish yellow with sides narrowly piceous, the dark area wider anteriorly, surface shining, impunctate. Scutellum reddish brown. Elytra slightly wider apically, with distinct intrahumeral sulcus and well marked humeri; shining, densely and distinctly punctate, deep blue. Body beneath reddish yellow, the femora pale with a dark streak above and at apex, front tibiae dark on upper side, pale beneath, middle and hind tibiae entirely dark, tarsi dark. Length 3.7 mm; width 1.7 mm.

Type, female, from Piloto, Moa, Oriente Province, Cuba, collected in June 1954 by Fernando de Zayas and Pastor Alayo, and in the collection of Zayas.

Remarks.—Although only a female of this species is known, I am pretty sure that the male has notched middle tibiae and probably some deformity of the antennal joints. The only two other species having a close resemblance to this are from Haiti and the Dominican Republic, *E. angusticollis* Blake and *E. leonardorum* Blake. Both species have dark sides to the prothorax but differ from the rest of the genus in being more slender.

Leptonesiotes quadrimaculata, n. sp.

Fig. 5

About 5.5 mm in length, elongate oblong oval, the elytra finely and confusedly punctate, pale reddish, the antennae, tibiae and tarsi deeper brown, the femora in basal half with a metallic luster, the abdomen also metallic, the elytra with a large basal fascia interrupted at the suture, and an apical one covering apical half, these spots being bluish green.

Head with interocular space half its width, occiput well rounded, smooth, shining, nearly impunctate; frontal tubercles distinctly marked, a short carina between antennal sockets; head entirely pale reddish. Antennae not extending to the middle of the elytra, gradually thickening toward apex, third joint shorter than fourth, basal joints pale, the remaining ones deeper brown. Prothorax a little wider than long, with nearly straight sides, apical angle obtusely truncate, disk smoothly convex, without depressions, entirely pale reddish, shining, impunctate. Scutellum pale. Elytra wider than prothorax and slightly wider apically, a short intrahumeral sulcus, surface finely punctate, shining, pale reddish with a broad basal fascia narrowly interrupted at the suture of lustrous bluish green, and another even broader area covering apical half of elytra. Body beneath reddish brown with the middle of the breast and abdomen darker brown, the abdomen having a metallic lustre, femora also with metallic lustre, except at apex which is pale; tibiae and tarsi brown. Anterior coxal cavities open. Claws appendiculate. Length 5.7 mm; width 2 mm.

Type, female, collected at Rancho Luna, Cienfuegos, Las Villas Province, Cuba, in June 1955, by Fernando de Zayas, and in his collection.

Remarks.—Although no male has been examined, I believe that this is closely related to *Leptonesiotes cyanospila* (Suffrian) and that the male has notched middle tibiae and possibly enlarged hind femora. It has a color pattern similar to that species but instead of the small basal and apical spots, the present species has spots so large as to form basal and apical fasciae.

AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF CHEMISTS HONOR AWARD

Thomas R. Henry, the *Washington Star's* science columnist, was recently presented with the annual honor award of the Washington Chapter, American Institute of Chemists. Mr. Henry was cited for his service to science as a professional writer and author and for his ability and untiring efforts in keeping the public informed of important and noteworthy advances in science through the medium of the press.

The presentation was made by Dr. Emil Ott, past-president of the American Institute of Chemists, at a dinner held at the Army-Navy Club on May 27, 1959. Dr. Ott emphasized Mr. Henry's contributions to science reporting and his efforts in the education of editorial writers on the importance of disseminating science news to the public.

The invitation address was delivered by Benjamin McKelway, editor of the *Evening Star*. He praised Mr. Henry for his ability as a reporter who has written articles on many important news events. He also praised Mr. Henry's style and firm grasp of his subjects.

In his acceptance address, Mr. Henry outlined the progress made in science reporting over the past 30 years. Further, he pointed out that journalism and science have been accepting each other and as a result have contributed to public understanding and progress of science itself.