

ENTOMOLOGY.—*New Jassinae, with notes on other species.*¹ P. W. OMAN, U. S. Bureau of Entomology. (Communicated by HAROLD MORRISON.)

PLATYMETOPIUS HYALINUS Osb.

Platymetopius cinctus Mats., Jour. Col. Agr., Tohoku Imperial Univ., Vol. 5, part 7, p. 215, 1914.

This pretty little leafhopper was described by Osborn (Ent. News, XI, p. 501, 1900) from specimens taken in Washington on an introduced maple. He and later workers in the group have strongly suspected that the species was an introduced one, but knowledge of original habitat has not heretofore been available. However, in looking over the leafhoppers in the C. F. Baker collection the writer found two specimens of this insect from Japan labeled *Platymetopius cinctus* Matsumura determined by Matsumura. *P. cinctus* was not described until 1914 (Jour. Col. Agr., Tohoku Imperial Univ., vol. 5, Part 7, p. 215) so it becomes a synonym of *P. hyalinus* Osb. Matsumura reports the species from Hokkaido, Honshu (Tokyo, Gifu, Takasago) and Kiushu (Satsuma) and says it was collected in numbers from a species of maple. This evidence strengthens the assumption of Dikerson and Weiss (Ann. Ent. Soc. Amer. vol. 12, p. 372, 1919) that the hopper was brought into this country on imported maples. Since its importation it has spread rather rapidly and is now reported as far west as Ohio. The writer has also examined specimens in the collection of the University of Kansas taken at Portland, Oregon, Aug. 12, 1920, by A. A. Nichol, indicating the introduction of the species to the west coast as well as the east.

Laevicephalus excavatus n. sp.

Figs. 3, 3a, 3b

Resembling *Laevicephalus striatus* (L) but slightly smaller, with the male plates longer and the last ventral segment of the female roundly excavated. Length 3–3.5 mm.

Color: Much as in typical *striatus* but variable. Darker specimens show a pair of triangular brown spots at the apex of the vertex and two pairs of quadrangular spots behind these. Paler specimens may have only the spots at the apex. Pronotum with four faint longitudinal brown stripes. Veins of elytra whitish, cells variously embrowned.

Form: Vertex one-fourth wider than long, distinctly right-angled. Head slightly wider than pronotum. General appearance more robust than *striatus*.

Genitalia: Last ventral segment of female slightly longer than preceding with a median U-shaped excavation extending half-way to the base, length next the excavation exceeding length at side of abdomen. Male valve as in *striatus* but plates slightly more exposed and divergent at the tips than in that

¹ Received August 15, 1931.

species. In the internal male genitalia the shaft of the oedagus, from the point of union of the two forks to the point of articulation of the penis, although much heavier and broader, is less than half as long as the corresponding portion in *L. striatus* (L.).

Holotype female from Gazelle, California, Sept. 4, 1897, A. Morse, Collection C. F. Baker (2373).

Allotype male, same data.

Paratypes, 24 males and 5 females with the above data, one male from Siskiyou, Oregon, Sept. 6, 1897, A. Morse, Collection C. F. Baker (2381), and 8 males and 7 females from Lakeside, Lake Tahoe, California, June 29, 1927, J. M. Aldrich.

Types.—Cat. No. 43584, U. S. N. M.

LAEVICEPHALUS DEBILIS (Uhler).

Deltocephalus cadyi Deay, Can. Ent., vol. 59, pp. 54–55, 1927.

Laevicephalus orbiculus DeL. & S. Ann. Ent. Soc. Amer., vol. 22, p. 103, 1929.

In his description of the species (Bul. U. S. Geol. Geog. Surv., 1, p. 360 [94], 1876) Uhler gives, as the locality, "Colorado, on the sides of the high mountains, and near Fair Play, in South Park." Of the original series, so far as the writer is able to determine, there are only two specimens remaining. Both are females, one labeled "Col. Mts." and evidently one of those referred to as occurring "on the sides of high mountains," while the other is from Fair Play. Both labels are in Uhler's handwriting. Since the specimen labeled "Col. Mts." has locality preference and answers in all respects to the description, it should be considered as typical of the species. The example from Fair Play is another species, apparently *erectus* DeLong, and does not fit Uhler's characterization of *debilis*. However, the specimen at hand from "Col. Mts." is not the species heretofore known as *debilis*, but is identical with specimens of *L. orbiculus* DeL. & Slmn. (Ann. Ent. Soc. Amer. vol. 22, p. 103, 1919) and with paratypes of *L. cadyi* (Deay) (Can. Ent., vol. 59, pp. 54–55, 1927), obtained through the kindness of Dr. P. B. Lawson. The above-mentioned species hence must be accepted as synonyms of *L. debilis* (Uhler) while the species commonly known as *debilis* is unnamed and will be described later in this paper.

That Uhler's description does not apply to the larger species formerly known as *debilis* is shown by the fact that he gives the length of 3.5 mm., and says the front is "stained with black above and on each side." These characters fit his example but cannot be applied to the larger species. There are also in the Uhler collection examples of this larger species from the C. F. Baker collection. These Uhler had labeled "*Deltocephalus debilis* Uhler var."—further evidence that he recognized them as not being typical of *debilis*.

L. debilis (Uhl.) seems to be limited in distribution to the higher altitudes in the northwestern part of the United States. I have seen specimens from Wyoming, Colorado, and Montana.

Laevicephalus uhleri n. sp.

Similar to *L. debilis* (Uhler) but larger and more robust, the female genital segment without prominent lateral angles. Length of female 4 mm., of male 3.75 mm.

Color: General ground color yellowish green, front usually brownish with pale arcs over the entire surface. Elytra occasionally black, in part or wholly. Tip of last ventral segment of female black. Abdomen variously infuscated.

Form: Somewhat variable, about as in *debilis* but more robust. Last ventral segment of female with rounding lateral angles, produced medially and slightly bifid. Male valve bluntly triangular, plates large and broad, bluntly rounded and not equaling pygofer.

Most references in literature to *L. debilis* (Uhl.) apply to this species, one of the commonest in high altitude and northern regions. However, this species lacks the prominent lateral angles on the female segment which are characteristic of Uhler's species, and has the front usually wholly uniformly brownish with faint arcs, while *debilis* is marked with black only toward the apex and on the sides of the front, the remaining portion being distinctly lighter.

Holotype female and *allotype* male are from Forrester's Ranch, Laramie Co., Colorado, August 3, 1896, C. F. Baker, Collection C. F. Baker (2020).

Numerous paratypes from Forrester's Ranch, collection C. F. Baker (2020 and 2013) and Morris Ranch, Laramie Co., Colorado, July 11, 1896, C. F. Baker, Collection, C. F. Baker (2009). There are also specimens at hand from other localities in Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Utah, Washington, and Canada.

Types.—Cat. No. 43585, U. S. N. M.

Deltocephalus lineatifrons n. sp.

Figs. 2, 2a, 2b

Size and form of *D. chintinomy* DeLong but with two black longitudinal stripes on the front. Length of male 2.75 mm., of female 3 mm.

Color: General ground color pale yellow. Front and vertex yellow except for two wide parallel stripes of black which cover the sides of the frons and a portion of the genae, and extend to the disc of the vertex, coming closer together as they do so, with a partial break at the apex of the vertex. Pronotum with anterior margin irregularly infuscated, as in the scutellum. Clavus of each elytron with an oblique fuscous mark, the two together forming a rough V on the dorsal median line. A large irregular fuscous spot on the disc and a smaller one near the apex of the corium. Abdomen infuscated. Central portion of hind margin of last ventral segment of female pale brown.

Form: General appearance robust. Vertex well produced and rounded to the front, length on the median line two-thirds the width at base. Pronotum with anterior margin strongly convex, posterior margin straight, length at middle exceeding length of vertex, sides very short. Elytra of male exceeding abdomen; of female, short, leaving tip of abdomen exposed.

Genitalia: Last ventral segment of female twice longer than preceding, lateral angles rounded, central portion rather broadly excavated, a small tooth at the bottom of the excavation. Sides and base of notch brownish. Male valve broad and slightly triangular, plates together broad at base and well produced with rounded tips.

This species belongs to the *fuscinervosus* group but appears to be most

closely related to *chintinomy* DeLong, from which it may be separated by the markings of the vertex and front.

Holotype male and *Allotype* female from Spicer's, North Park, Colorado, July 18, 1896, C. F. Baker, Collection C. F. Baker (2024).

Paratypes.—6 males and 4 females with the above data, 2 males and 2 females from Rabbit Ears Pass, Colorado, July 21, 1896, C. F. Baker, Collection C. F. Baker (2019), and one male from Cameron Pass, N. Colorado, July 30, 1896, C. F. Baker, Collection C. F. Baker (2150).

Types.—Cat. No. 43586, U. S. N. M.

It is interesting to note that North Park, Colorado, has a mean altitude of from 8,000 to 9,000 feet and Rabbit Ears Pass and Cameron Pass are both near 10,000 feet in altitude. C. F. Baker's collection notes state that 2024 was "on grass, *Carex*, and a little *Potentilla*," and 2150 was "on mostly *Carex*." From this it is evident that the species is confined to situations in high altitudes, apparently alpine meadows.

THAMNOTETTIX SIMPLEX (Herrich-Schäeffler).

Deltocephalus chlamydatus Prov., Pet. Faune Ent. Can., vol. 2, p. 339, 1890.

The writer has compared specimens of *Thamnotettix chlamydatus* (Prov.) from Colorado, Canada, and Alaska with examples of *Thamnotettix simplex* (H.S.) from Europe and finds them to be identical in all external characters and in the internal male genitalia. *Th. simplex* (H. S.) has priority.

The species is apparently common in both North America and Europe. In North America it is limited in distribution to northern localities or high altitudes.

DRYLIX TRUNCATUS Sleesman

Fig. 4

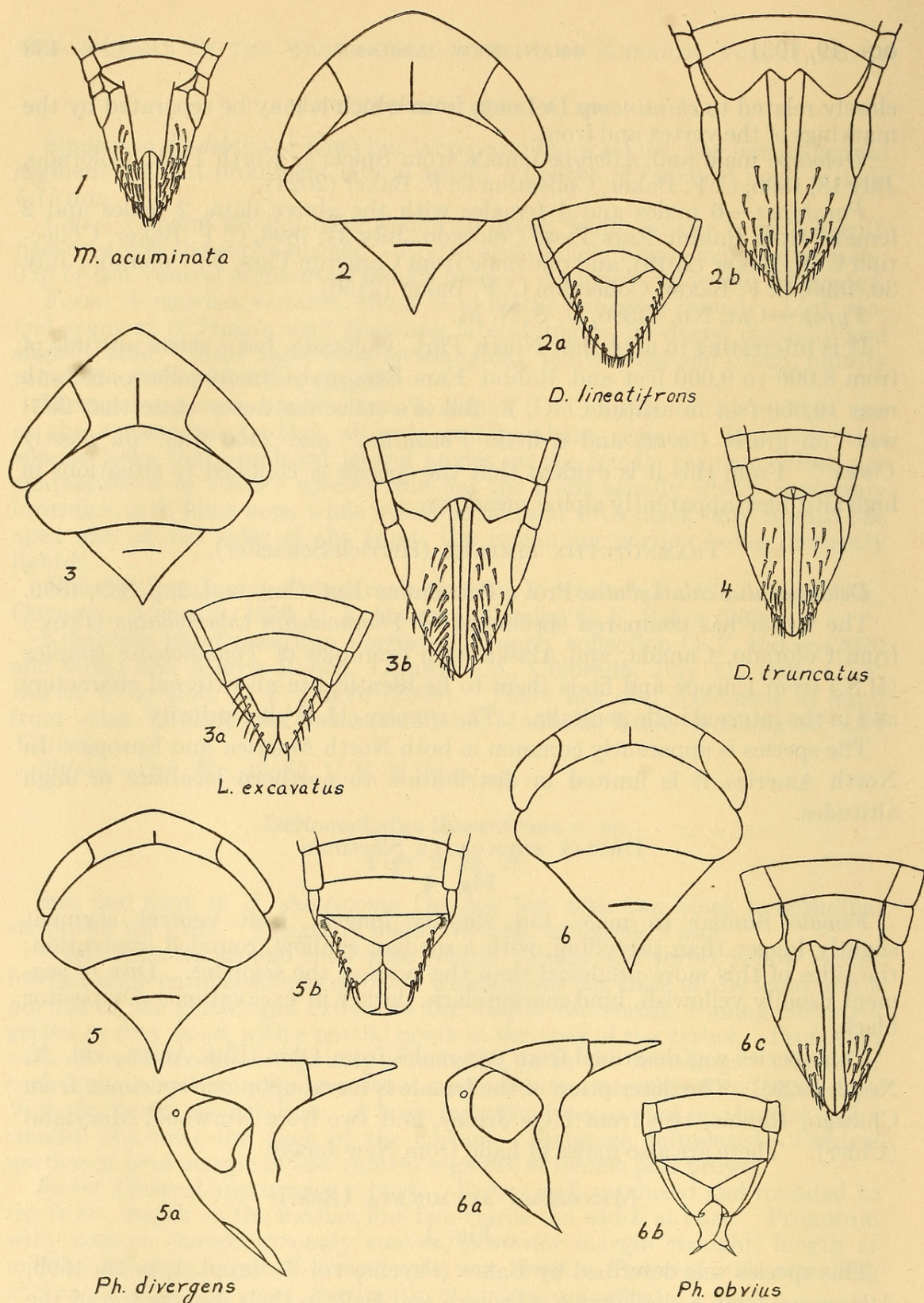
Female: Similar to male, but slightly longer. Last ventral segment slightly longer than preceding, with a median shallow, rounded excavation; the sides of this more produced than the sides of the segment. Disc of segment usually yellowish, hind margin dark, darker in excavation. Ovipositor black.

This species was described from two males from Ohio (Ent. Amer., vol. X, No. 2, 1929). The description of the female is based upon one specimen from Chicago, Illinois, two from New Jersey, and two from Norwood, Maryland (Uhler). There are also males at hand from New Jersey.

MENOSOMA ACUMINATA (Bak.)

Fig. 1

This species was described by Baker (Psyche, vol. 7, Suppl. 1, p. 25, 1896, *Athysanus*) from a single male. Osborn and Ball, in their monograph of the group (1902), stated that "This species is only known by the single, faded, male type and while it without doubt belongs to the subgenus *Conosanus* its character could not be made out with sufficient certainty to warrant including in the synopsis." Sleesman (1929) did not mention it in his monograph of the *Euscelis* group.



EXPLANATION OF FIGURES

- Fig. 1. *Menosoma acuminata*; female genitalia. $\times 15.5$.
 Fig. 2. *Deltocephalus lineatifrons*; 2a, male genitalia; 2b, female genitalia. $\times 31$.
 Fig. 3. *Laevicephalus excavatus*; 3a, male genitalia; 3b, female genitalia. $\times 31$.
 Fig. 4. *Drylix truncatus*; female genitalia. $\times 15.5$.
 Fig. 5. *Phlepsioides divergens*; 5a, lateral view of head; 5b, male genitalia. $\times 15.5$.
 Fig. 6. *Phlepsioides obivius*; 6a, lateral view of head; 6b, male genitalia; 6c, female genitalia. $\times 15.5$.

Some time ago there was sent to the Bureau of Entomology by Mr. Van E. Romney from Alamo Alto Sta. in Western Texas a single female which was identified by the writer as *acuminata* (Baker). Subsequently, when the group was being arranged, a pair of specimens was found labeled by Dr. E. D. Ball: "This is *Athysanus acuminatus* Bak." Since these are the only known records of the female of the species a description is here added.

Similar in size and coloration to the male. Last ventral segment with a long, median, spatulate process ending in two lateral points, between these a U-shaped excavation. Segment, aside from process, short, longer next the process than at lateral margins.

The male types seems to be quite typical in color for the species. Ball (Florida Ent., vol. XV, No. 1, p. 5, 1931) has recently placed the species in the genus *Menosoma* Ball.

***Phlepsius divergens* n. sp.**

Figs. 5, 5a, 5b.

Resembling *Phlepsius mimus* Baker in form and coloration but larger, with the vertex shorter and the male plates flat and strongly divergent at the tips. Length of male 6.5 mm.

Color: General ground color creamy to gray. Fuscous irrorations over face and entire dorsal surface without definite pattern. Femora distinctly twice-banded with black. Hind margin of pygofer black.

Form: Vertex short, scarcely longer at middle than next the eye, very slightly angled and not carinate between disc and front. Pronotum over two and one-half times as long as the vertex. Elytra extending well beyond tip of abdomen.

Genitalia: Male valve very short and broad, obtusely angled at the middle. Plates flat and broad, outer margins nearly parallel but slightly concave and converging; inner margins contiguous for a short distance, then sharply diverging, the plates together thus having the appearance of a triangular incision from the hind margin. Pygofer strongly exceeding plates, margins thick and heavy.

Because of the very distinct male genitalia there is no hesitancy in describing this form from a single specimen, the holotype male from Forestburg, Texas, taken in June, 1928.

Type.—Cat. No. 43587, U. S. N. M.

***Phlepsius obvius*, n. sp.**

Figs. 6, 6a, 6b, 6c.

Very similar in size and form to *Phlepsius mimus* Baker but with the elytra much more finely and densely irrorate and the female genital segment broadly produced medially. Length of male 6.25 mm., of female 7 mm.

Color: Dirty white to gray, heavily irrorate with brown. Hind margin of female genital segment dark centrally.

Form: Vertex broad, one-half longer at the middle than next the eye, very bluntly angled and rather rounding to the front. Pronotum nearly twice as long as vertex. Elytra long, tips slightly flaring.

Genitalia: Last ventral segment of female nearly twice as long as preceding, lateral angles well produced and rounded, hind margin shallowly excavated, the median portion with a short, blunt, slightly bifid tooth. Male valve triangular, broad and rather short. Plates short and broad, diverging at tips, somewhat similar to those of *Phlepsius divergens* n. sp. but with the tips thin and curled upward. Pygofer extending beyond plates, tips thin and bluntly pointed.

Holotype male, *Allotype* female, and one female *paratype* from Clyde T. Reed, Kingsville, Texas.

Types.—Cat. No. 43588, U. S. N. M.

BOTANY.—*Two new grasses from Mexico.*¹ JASON R. SWALLEN, Bureau of Plant Industry. (Communicated by A. S. HITCHCOCK.)

Among the grasses collected by Prof. H. H. Bartlett on the Expedition of the University of Michigan to the Sierra de San Carlos, Tamaulipas, Mexico, in the summer of 1930, the following two species are new.

***Panicum transiens* Swallen, sp. nov.**

Perenne; culmi erecti 60–65 cm. alti, pubescentes vel pilosi, ramosi; vaginae papilloso-pilosae, quam internoda culmorum breviores, quam internoda ramorum longiores; laminae 5–12 cm. longae, 6–14 mm. latae, lanceolatae, pubescentes, marginibus albis scabris, basi papilloso-ciliatae; panícula 8–15 cm. longa, ramis adscendentibus vel divergentibus; spiculae appressae, 4 mm. longae, basi attenuatae, papilloso-pubescentes; gluma prima subacuta 2 mm. longa; gluma secunda quam spicula paulo brevior; lemma sterile spiculam aequans; lemma fertile 3 mm. longum, subacutum apice pubescens.

Perennial, culms erect, 60–65 cm. tall, freely branching, pubescent or pilose; sheaths papillose-pilose, densely pubescent on the collar, those of the main culm shorter than the internodes, those of the branches much longer than the internodes; blades 5–12 cm. long, 6–14 mm. wide, lanceolate, flat, pubescent on both surfaces, the white scabrous margins papillose-ciliate toward the rounded base; ligule densely ciliate, about 0.5 mm. long; panicles 8–15 cm. long, the short-branches stiffly ascending or spreading; spikelets (except the terminal ones) short-pedicelled, appressed to the branches, 4 mm. long, pointed at the apex, attenuate at the base, papillose-pubescent; first glume 2 mm. long, subacute, the margins somewhat hyaline; second glume a little shorter than the spikelet exposing the fruit; sterile lemma equaling the spikelet; fruit 3 mm. long, subacute, smooth and shining, puberulent at the apex.

Type in the United States National Herbarium No. 1501526, collected on Mesa de Tierra, vicinity of San José, altitude 1000 meters, Sierra de San Carlos, Tamaulipas, Mexico, July 19, 1930, by H. H. Bartlett (No. 10454).

Another specimen (Bartlett 10090) collected at La Vegania, vicinity of San José, Tamaulipas, Mexico, is also referred to this species.

Panicum transiens is allied to *P. pedicellatum* Vasey of Texas and *P. nodatum* Hitchc. & Chase of Texas and northern Tamaulipas. From the

¹ Received August 11, 1931.



1931. "New Jassinae, with notes on other species." *Journal of the Washington Academy of Sciences* 21, 430–436.

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