

## ON SOME COLEOPTERA OF ECONOMIC IMPORTANCE FROM NEW GUINEA AND AUSTRALIA

By Karl E. Schedl

LIENZ, OSTTIROL, AUSTRIA

*Abstract:* Seven species of Bostrychidae, 11 Brentthidae, 6 Scolytidae, and 5 Platypodidae are listed, including 2 new species of Scolytidae (*Hylurdrectonus*, *Xyleborus*).

Dr. J. J. H. Szent-Ivany, Senior Entomologist of the Dept. of Agriculture, Stock and Fisheries, Konedobu, Papua, several times has forwarded some Brentthidae, Scolytidae and Platypodidae for identification. Other specimens of Brentthidae and Bostrychidae determined during recent years were received from the National Museum in Victoria and the Museum Frey, Tutzing, Germany. As the greater part of the specimens collected were taken from cultivated plants it seems advisable to publish these new records so that fellow-workers might be able to make use of them in future investigations. Descriptions of 2 new species are also given.

### Bostrychidae

- Bostrychopsis jesuita* F.: Cockatoo Island, W. Australia, 15. X. 1955, leg. H. Demarz; West Australia, Marble Bar, V. 1955, Shawriver, 20. V. & VI. 1955, leg. H. Demarz.  
*Rhizopertha dominica* F.: West Australia, New Norcia, XII. 1953, leg. H. Demarz.  
*Xylion cylindricus* M. L.: Sidney, N. S. W., 1958, leg. Nikitin.  
*Xylopsocus bispinosa* M. L.: West Australia, Cockatoo Island, X. 1955, leg. H. Demarz.  
*Xylopsocus gibbicollis* M. L.: West Australia, Cockatoo Island, X. 1955, leg. H. Demarz.  
*Xylopsocus rubidus* Lesne: West Australia, Kenwick, 10. XII. 1955, leg. H. Demarz.  
*Xylothrips flavipes* Ill.: Queensland, Innisfail, 28. XI-13. XII. 1961, leg. H. Demarz.

### Brentthidae

- Caenorychodes diagramma* Boisd.: Papua, Popondetta, 13. III. 1962, Coll. A. Catley, ex Coll. Dept. Agr., Pt. Moresby, nr. SL/66; Papua, Itikinumu Estate, Sogeri Subdistr., 500 m, 31. I. 1963, borer in the tapping area, 24 year old *Hevea brasiliensis*, ex Coll. Dept. Agr., Pt. Moresby, nr. L/115, coll. J. J. H. Szent-Ivany, L. Smee, E. Kanjiri; N. Australia, XII. 1949, G. D. Campbell; Queensland, Endeavour River, Nat. Mus. Victoria; Neu Holland, Mus. Frey.  
*Caenorychodes serrirostris* F.: Queensland, Endeavour River, Nat. Mus. Victoria; New Guinea, Nat. Mus. Victoria.

- Ectocemus decemmaculatus* Montr.: Deutsch Neu Guinea, Bongu, F. Schneider; Deutsch Neu Guinea, Bogia, Wareo and Tumleo, without date, Steyl. Miss. Mus. (Mus. Frey); Deutsch Neu Guinea, Kon, X. 1913, Monumbo, XI. 1913, Steyl. Miss. Mus. (Mus. Frey); Bougainville, Mus. Frey; Finschhafen, Dr. Brehme; Neu Holland, Mus. Frey; Neu Pommern, Herbertshöhle, F. Schneider (Mus. Frey).
- Elytracantha pogonocerus* Montr.: Deutsch Neu Guinea, Monumbo, Miss. Mus. Steyl. (Mus. Frey).
- Hormocerus reticulatus* F.: Papua, Banbauguina, via Abau, 10. IV. 1959, in fallen Breadfruit tree, coll. B. G. Griffiths & A. Catley.
- Ithystenus hollandiae* Boisd.: Papua, N. District, Igora Plantation, 300 m, 14. IX. 1957, on *Coffea robusta*, coll. Dr. J. J. H. Szent-Ivany.
- Ithystenus spinosus* Kleine: Bougainville, Mus. Frey.
- Miolispa novaguineensis* Guer.: Papua, Popondetta District, Saugara Estate, II. 1956, on *Hevea brasiliensis*, coll. W. Vanderbeck.
- Miolispa papuana* Kleine: Papua, Central District, Bisianumu, 3. VIII. 1957, on foliage of rubber buddings, coll. Dr. J. J. H. Szent-Ivany.
- Stratiopisthius doriae* Senna: Papua, Central District, Koitaki Estate, 18. III. 1956, borer of rubber tree, coll. J. J. H. Szent-Ivany.
- Uropteroides gestroi* Senna: Papua, Central District, Browne River Area, 4. III. 1959, on coffee leaf, coll. J. J. H. Szent-Ivany & A. Catley.

#### Scolytidae

- Hylurdrectonus araucariae* Schedl, n. sp.: New Guinea, Wau, Morobe District, 1200 m, II. 1963, causing severe damage to Hoop-Pine (*Araucaria cumminghami*) on more than 30 acres of plantation of the Department of Forestry, in needles and bark of branches. Coll. Kevin J. White, Chief of Division of Silviculture, Port Moresby.
- Xyleborus banksiae* Schedl, n. sp.: West Australia, Dwellingup, 15. IX. 1960, ex *Banksia grandis*, coll. W. Stahl.
- Xyleborus morigerus* Blandf.: Bismarck Archipel, Djaul Isl., New Ireland District, Panapau Plantation, III. 1963, ex Tap Root dead Cacao tree, coll. R. C. McDonald.
- Xyleborus perforans* Woll.: Papua, Central District, Sogori Subdistrict, Itikinumu Estate, 500 m, 31. VII. 1963, in tapping area of 8 and 9 years old rubber trees (*Hevea brasiliensis*), coll. Dr. J. J. H. Szent-Ivany, L. Smee & E. Kanjiri.
- Xyleborus ursus* Egg.: New Guinea, Bougainville District, Karoola Plantation, 7. VI. 1963, borer in 6 years old cacao tree, coll. Messr. M. Babbage & L. Green.
- Eccoptopterus spinosus* Oliv.: Papua, Central District, Sogeri Subdistrict, Itikinumu Estate, 31. VII. 1963, found in the tapping area of 9 years old rubber trees, fast moving species, coll. Dr. J. J. H. Szent-Ivany, L. Smee & E. Kanjiri.

#### Platypodidae

- Crossotarsus biconcavus* Schedl: NE New Guinea, Goroka, Eastern Highlands District, 1560 m, 2. X. 1957, borer in *Albizzia stipulata* shade tree in *Coffea arabica* plantation, R. S. Carne.
- Platypus externedentatus* Fairm.: New Guinea, Bougainville District, Karoola Plantation, 7. VI. 1963, borer in 6 years old cacao tree, coll. Messr. M. Babbage & L. Green.

- Platypus jansoni* Chap.: Papua, Central District, Sogeri Subdistrict, Itikinumu Estate, 31. VII.1963, borer in the tapping area of 24 years old *Hevea brasiliensis*, coll. Dr. J. J. H. Szent-Ivany, L. Smee & E. Kanjiri. Papua, Central District, Bamguina River area, Abau, 3. XI.1963, borer in commercial timber kept in salt water for a long period, Harvey Booth (a very interesting observation).
- Platypus selysi* Chap.: Papua, Central District, Sogeri Subdistrict, Itikinumu Estate, 500 m, 31. VII.1963, borer in tapping area of 8 and 24 years old *Hevea brasiliensis*, coll. Dr. J. J. H. Szent-Ivany, L. Smee & E. Kanjiri.
- Platypus siporanus* Schedl: New Guinea, Bougainville District, Karoola Plantation, 7. VI. 1963, borer in 6 years old cacao tree, coll. Messr. M. Babbage & L. Green.
- Platypus solidus* Walk.: Papua, Central District, Sogeri Subdistrict, Itikinumu Estate, 500 m, 31. VII.1963 found in tapping area of 9 years old rubber trees (*Hevea brasiliensis*), coll. Dr. J. J. H. Szent-Ivany, L. Smee & E. Kanjiri.

***Hylurdretonus araucariae* Schedl, n. sp.**

Piceous shining, 1.56–1.66 mm long, ca 3× as long as wide. Allied to *Hylurdretonus pinarius* Schedl but without the classical sexual dimorphism, with a short reddish brown pubescence and without a scale-like vestiture on the elytral declivity.

*Front* plano-convexe, densely rather finely punctured, from the punctures arising short downward directed pale hairs. *Pronotum* as long as wide, appearing more slender on account of its outline, postero-lateral angles rectangular, feebly rounded, the sides fairly straight on little more than basal 1/2, very broadly rounded in front, subapical constrictions indicated; surface feebly convexe in both directions, densely and rather coarsely punctured, the punctures bearing short semi-erect brownish hairs. Scutellum very small, knob-like. *Elytra* distinctly wider (18 : 15) and 2× as long as pronotum, the sides parallel on the basal 1/2, thence gradually incurved, apex rather broadly rounded, declivity commencing in the middle, gradually convexe; disc somewhat shining, with densely placed rows of medium sized punctures so that it is quite difficult to distinguish between those of the main striae and such originating on the interstices, all punctures bearing very short semi-erect hairs, those of the main striae being somewhat more inclined; on the declivity the pubescence is feebly longer, the striae 1 & 2 somewhat more impressed.

*Types* in the collection of the Dept. of Agriculture, Stock and Fisheries, Port Moresby and in my collection.

*Locality*: New Guinea, Wau, Morobe District, 1200 m, II. 1963, causing severe damage to Hoop-Pine (*Araucaria cumminghami*) on more than 30 acres of plantation of the Department of Forestry, in needles and bark of branches, Coll. Kevin J. White, Chief of Division of Silviculture, Port Moresby.

***Xyleborus banksiae* Schedl, n. sp.**

♀: Shining, pronotum reddish brown, elytra distinctly darker, 3.2 mm long, 2.4× as long as wide. Allied to *Xyleborus truncatiformis* Egg. but the elytra more coarsely punctured, the declivital face distinctly convex and with rows of very coarse punctures.

*Front* broadly convexe, opaque, minutely punctulate, intermixed with some fine punctures above and more densely finely granulate-punctate below, with fine short pubescence. *Pro-*

*notum* about as long as wide, postero-lateral angles rectangular and somewhat rounded, sides parallel on basal 1/2, apex broadly rounded, subtransverse in middle so that the antero-lateral angles are quite distinct; summit very high, situated somewhat before center, anterior area steeply convexe, dull, densely covered by very small asperities, some very low ones along the anterior margin, basal area subshining, minutely punctulate and finely, rather remotely punctured, sparsely pubescent on anterior 1/2 and sides. Scutellum shining, wider than long. *Elytra* very feebly wider and 1.6× as long as pronotum, widest near the very broadly rounded apical margin, the sides straight, apical margin abruptly incurved, declivity restricted to apical 1/3 of elytra, steeply truncate; disc shining, with rather regular rows of medium sized densely placed punctures in hardly impressed lines, the interstices wide, each one with an irregular row of punctures of about the same size than those of the main striae, these punctures somewhat smaller near base; declivity shining, feebly depressed just below the acute margin in upper 1/2, distinctly and broadly convexe below, striae 1-3 deeply impressed and with extremely coarse punctures, especially on the striae 1-2, interstice 2 narrow, with a few fine punctures, sutural interstices narrow and with a dense row of fine setose granules, interstices 3 & 4 wide, with scattered very fine punctures bearing medium long fine hairs.

Holotype and 1 paratype in the British Museum (Nat. Hist.), 1 paratype in my collection.

*Locality*: Dwellingup, W. A. (West Australia), 15.IX.1960, ex *Banksia grandis*, W. Stahl.

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## RECENT LITERATURE ON PACIFIC INSECTS

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- Lieftinck, M. A. 1958. Revision of the Indo-Australian species of the genus *Thyreus* Panzer (= *Crocisa* Jurine) (Hym., Apoidea, Anthophoridae). Part 1. Introduction and list of species. *Nova Guinea, n. ser.* **9** (1): 21-30.
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- Muesebeck, C. F. W. 1963. A new Hawaiian *Opius* from a leaf-mining pest of beans (Hymenoptera: Braconidae). *Proc. Haw. Ent. Soc.* 1962 **18** (2): 289-90.

(Continued on page 224)