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## Some New Bees from Flowers of Cactaceæ

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## SOME NEW BEES FROM FLOWERS OF CACTACEÆ.

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*Melissodes opuntiella*, n. sp.

♂.—Length about 9 mm.; black, with white hair, that on head and thorax all white, without any ochraceous or fuscous; head broad; clypeus pale yellow, with the usual spots, and the lower margin rather broadly piceous or reddish; mandibles with a large yellow spot; labrum entirely black, with white hair; scape short, black; flagellum very broadly bright orange-fulvous beneath, unusually short for a *Melissodes*, reaching only to about middle of scutellum; mesothorax and scutellum shining, with scattered small but distinct punctures; tegulæ testaceous, with white hair; wings clear, nervures dusky ferruginous; legs black, with dull ferruginous tarsi; hair of legs white, ferruginous on inner side of basitarsi; abdomen finely punctured, the hind margins of the segments broadly hyaline, and with dull white hair-bands; last two segments with short but evident lateral teeth. Not unlike the Mexican *M. otomita* Cresson, but with the face broader, the antennæ shorter (especially the apical joints), and the mesothorax and scutellum more finely and sparsely punctured.

♀.—Length about 10 mm.; clypeus black, closely punctured; eyes green; flagellum short, bright ferruginous beneath beyond the second joint; hair of head and thorax white, without dark, as in the male; first abdominal segment with a patch of white hair at each posterior corner, second with a dense basal hair-band and a broader apical one, both straight and uniform; third and fourth also with broad white apical hair-bands, third with grayish-white tomentum basally; fifth and sixth with the hair entirely dark chocolate; scopa of hind legs loose, plumose, adapted for carrying the large pollen of the *Opuntia*; hair on inner side of hind basitarsi ferruginous.

*Hab.*—Brownsville, Texas, at flowers of *Opuntia lindheimeri*, both sexes, March 23, 1908 (*Jones and Pratt*); Hondo, Texas, at flowers of *Opuntia*, male, April 30, 1908 (*J. D. Mitchell*); Cotulla, Texas, at *Opuntia*, female, May 5, 1905 (*J. C. Crawford*). The type is a male from Brownsville.

In my tables in Trans. Amer. Ent. Soc., 1906, the male runs to *M. snowi*, which has the flagellum more than twice as long. The female runs nearest to *M. tepaneca*, a much larger species, with fulvous hair on thorax. It really much resembles the female of *M. sphaeralcea* Ckll., though the latter has dark hair on the thorax above.

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*Ashmeadiella echinocerei*, n. sp.

♀.—Length about  $5\frac{1}{2}$  mm.; black, with white hair, yellowish on inner side of tarsi; legs black; tegulæ shining piceous. Similar to *H. cactorum* Ckll., but distinguished by its narrow face (facial quadrangle much longer than broad), densely punctured mesothorax and strongly punctured abdomen. The eyes are broader in proportion to their length. As it is rather difficult to appreciate these characters without specimens of *cactorum* to compare, I give measurements:

Length to breadth of facial quadrangle as 85 to 72.

Length to breadth of eye as 85 to 42.

*Hab.*—Flagstaff, Arizona, at flowers of *Echinocereus*, June 12, 1909 (F. C. Pratt).

*Diadasia piercei*, n. sp.

Like *D. afflicta* (Cresson), but a little larger, the legs dark ferruginous, and the area of metathorax dullish, microscopically sculptured, not smooth and brilliantly shining as in *afflicta*. Female with abdomen very broad (considerably broader than in *afflicta*), with the sooty-brown scopa of hind legs very long and loose. Tegulæ in both sexes rich ferruginous; male with the hair on disc of second abdominal segment not wholly pale. The end of the male abdomen is formed as in *D. afflicta*, not as in *D. bituberculata*. *D. australis opuntiae* often has the scopa of hind legs as dark as in *piercei*, but then it has the hair at the apex of the abdomen tawny-fulvous, not chocolate as in *piercei*. The second submarginal cell in *piercei* is narrow and parallel-sided.

*Hab.*—Corpus Christi, Texas, at flowers of *Opuntia*, March 18, 1908, one male = type (W. D. Pierce); Beeville, Texas, at *Opuntia*, April 30, 1896, 4 ♂'s, 1 ♀ (Marlatt).

A species of the Lower Austral Zone.

*SMERINTHUS CERISYI* KIRBY.

Mr. Wolley Dod's interesting note in the March number has caused me to look up the name of this species. In Kirby's "Fauna Boreali-Americana: Insecta," p. 301, there is a description given of his species which he names "*Smerinthus cerisyi*, Cerisy's *Smerinthus*." Unfortunately, in Smith's and Dyar's lists the name is incorrectly given as "*cerysii*." The species is evidently named after a Mr. Cerisy, who probably was one of Sir John Robertson's party that collected the insects described by Mr. Kirby. It is to be hoped that the name will be correctly given in any future lists that are published.—[C. J. S. BETHUNE.]