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## The Bee-genus Dioxys in America

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# THE ENTOMOLOGICAL STUDENT

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## The Bee-genus *Dioxys* in America

By T. D. A. COCKERELL.

M. Vachal has just been kind enough to send me a specimen of *Dioxys spinigera* Perez, from Tunis, North Africa. This is a perfectly typical *Dioxys*; in fact, Friese regards it as only a variety of *D. cincta*, which is the type of the genus. Looking at this bee, I was surprised to recognize a genus well known to me in New Mexico, namely *Hoplopassites* Ashmead. *Philcremus productus* Cresson, the type of *Hoplopassites*, is a veritable *Dioxys*, and must be known as *Dioxys productus*! The resemblance between the species extends even to the reddish color of the basal part of the abdomen, seen in our New Mexico form of *D. productus*.

In Ashmead's table in Trans. Am. Ent. Soc., xxvi, 81-82, *Hoplopassites* is placed in the group with the "axillæ normal, not acutely toothed;" but on p. 82, it is said to have the "axillæ acute or toothed at apex;" and as a matter of fact the axillæ are as in *Dioxys*.

I have examined the maxillary palpi of *D. (Hoplopassites) productus*; they are two-jointed, the first joint stout, the second minute. I have not examined the palpi of *Dioxys* from the Old World, but Taschenberg intimates that they are as in *Celiioxys*, and of the latter genus E. Saunders says, "maxillary palpi 2-jointed, apical joint very small and narrow."

There is, however, a slight difference in venation, which, if constant, may entitle *Hoplopassites* to rank as a subgenus. In *Dioxys spinigera* the first recurrent nervure enters the second submarginal cell about one-fifth from its base, and the trans-

verso-medial nervure meets the basal nervures. In *D. productus* the first recurrent nervure almost exactly meets the transverso-cubital, and the transverso-medial nervure does not meet the basal, but joins the discoidal a little beyond it. F. Smith's figure (Cat. Hym. B. M., Pl. xii, fig. 18) of a wing of *Dioxys* indicates that these differences are not of generic value, for he figures the nervures above mentioned as they are in the American *D. productus*, not as in *D. spinigera*.

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### Cicindelidæ at Artificial Lights.

By H. F. WICKHAM.

It has been known for a long time that certain tiger beetles are occasionally taken in the vicinity of camp fires or about street lights, but I think it is only within quite recent years that collectors have begun to realize that several good American species are more readily captured by light-traps than in any other way. This is the more remarkable when we consider the ordinary habit of *Cicindela* and the delight which most species take in bright sunlight. They must often be attracted from considerable distances, since they occur at night around lamps in the most thickly settled districts of some of our cities. A few cases of my own observation are cited below; several published accounts by other writers will occur to those familiar with entomological literature.

*Tetracha carolina*.—During the daytime this beetle keeps concealed under cover in damp spots and is rarely seen in the sunlight unless disturbed, when it runs about with great swiftness seeking other shelter but does not fly. At night it appears, often in numbers, about the electric lamps and illuminated shop windows in many of the cities of the West. El Paso, Tucson or Phoenix can be depended upon to furnish a good supply during the summer months.

*T. virginica* also keeps under cover during the heat of the day but comes out at nightfall and may be found about lights in Nashville, Tenn., and in other southern cities.

*Cicindela punctulata* is well known as a diurnal form and delights in hot sunny roads, seeking neither shade nor shelter