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## Descriptions and Records of Bees – XCVIII

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1923a Ann Mag Nat Hist (9) 12: 238-247

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chiefly from limestone. It is also a well-known fact that *L. serpa* is one of the most variable species.

This observation is nevertheless interesting, demonstrating the fact that a living organism is able to change its colour in a relatively short time, to correspond to a change in its environment. At the same time, we may see that the changed condition of the environment produces its first effect upon the integument and on the chromatophores respectively.

On the strength of such observances we may conclude that a living organism in the first line is nothing else than the automatic product of the natural surroundings\*.

XXVII.—*Descriptions and Records of Bees.*—XCVIII.  
By T. D. A. COCKERELL, University of Colorado.

*Osmia (Cephalosmia) armaticeps*, Cresson.

♀.—Reared from pupal cells in a tunnel in heartwood of *Juniperus utahensis*, Minidoka National Forest, Utah (A. B. Morse), U.S. National Museum.

This is the first record of the nesting-habits of *Cephalosmia*.

*Halictus cyclurus*, Cockerell.

♀.—Tambourine Mountain, Queensland, at flowers of *Helichrysum bracteatum*, Oct. 27, 1912 (Hacker).

*Halictus rufibasis*, sp. n.

♀.—Length about 5 mm.

Robust, with very broad abdomen; head and thorax shining black, with very scanty hair, but the short, very thin hair on head and thorax above is dark brown; flagellum very obscurely brownish beneath; clypeus sparsely punctured; front very minutely roughened and punctured; laterad of each antenna is a dull microscopically lineolate patch, but between this and the eye the surface is polished; mesothorax very minutely transversely lineolate and sparsely and very weakly punctured; area of metathorax with about sixteen sharp plicae; posterior truncation not sharply defined; tegulae

\* Bollkay, St. J., "Nekoliko primjedbi o *Lacerta veithi*, By." ("Some Notes on *Lacerta veithi*, By."). Glasnik zem. muzeja u Bosni i Hercegovini, xxxii. 1920, p. 226.

very dark brown with very large nervures weak. stiff black bristles middle femora reddish hair. ferruginous, broadly clear obliquely up side except that with dark hairs. National P. Queensland M

♀.—Length Robust; head region slightly broadly bright of head and flagellum very sparsely punctured; mesothorax shining on dull wrinkled rug red. Wings brown, outer black, with especially the large curved first segment white hair, Brisbane, land Museum

♀.—Length Head and mandibles brighter to dull, minut with fine and defined; to

very dark brown, not punctured. Wings dilute brownish, with very large dull red stigma; outer recurrent and basal nervures weak. Legs piceous, the hind tibiae and tarsi with stiff black bristles, strongly branched on anterior side of tibiae; middle femora basally beneath with a brush of stiff pale reddish hair. Abdomen highly polished; first segment clear ferruginous, narrowly dusky at apex; second segment broadly clear red basally, but apical region and extending obliquely up sides very dark brown; rest of abdomen black, except that third segment is red at extreme base; venter with dark hairs.

National Park, Queensland, Dec. 1919 (*H. Hacker*).  
Queensland Museum.

*Halictus hemichalceus*, sp. n.

♀.—Length about 5.5 mm.

Robust; head broad, black, clypeus and supraclypeal region slightly purplish, eyes green in front; mandibles broadly bright ferruginous in middle; labrum dark red; hair of head and thorax thin, distinctly brown on mesothorax; flagellum ferruginous beneath except at base; clypeus sparsely punctured; front dull, with excessively close minute punctures; mesothorax and scutellum dark brassy green, the mesothorax dull, closely and distinctly punctured, scutellum shining on disc; area of metathorax large, with fine strongly wrinkled rugae; metathorax and pleura black; tegulae dark red. Wings dilute brownish; stigma large, pale yellowish brown, outer recurrent and intercubitus pallid. Legs mainly black, with pale hair, but anterior tibiae in front, and especially the knees, bright ferruginous; hind spur with a single large curved obtuse tooth. Abdomen dull ferruginous, the first segment with a large black discal shade; venter with white hair, not curled.

Brisbane, Queensland, Sept. 1914 (*H. Hacker*).  
Queensland Museum.

*Halictus basilucens*, sp. n.

♀.—Length hardly 5 mm.

Head and thorax black, dullish, with scanty pale hair; mandibles red in middle; flagellum dusky red beneath, brighter toward apex; clypeus shining, very sparsely punctured; front with microscopical raised lines; mesothorax dull, minutely and closely punctured; area of metathorax with fine anastomosing rugae; posterior truncation not sharply defined; tegulae red. Wings dusky hyaline; stigma dark

red, large-but rather short; first recurrent nervure meeting second intercubitus; outer recurrent and intercubitus weakened. Legs black, with pale hair, knees and small joints of tarsi reddish; hind spur with a single large spine. Abdomen shining, but minutely punctured, bright castaneous, the first segment black, polished, except the broad apical margin; venter with white hair, not curled.

Bribie Island, Queensland, Aug. 29, 1918, 2 ♀ (*H. Hucker*).  
Queensland Museum.

The following key separates the above species of *Halictus* from each other and from others having a mainly or wholly red abdomen:—

- |   |                             |
|---|-----------------------------|
| Mesothorax brassy, dull .....                             | <i>hemichalceus</i> , Ckll. |
| Mesothorax pure black .....                               | 1.                          |
| 1. First abdominal segment red .....                      | 2.                          |
| First abdominal segment mainly dark or black.             | 4.                          |
| 2. Mesothorax with conspicuous strong punctures.          | <i>ewarti</i> , Ckll.       |
| Mesothorax without distinct punctures under a lens .....  | 3.                          |
| 3. Abdomen red .....                                      | <i>clarigaster</i> , Ckll.  |
| Abdomen beyond base of third segment black.               | <i>rufibasis</i> , Ckll.    |
| 4. Area of metathorax larger, without distinct rugæ ..... | <i>cyclurus</i> , Ckll.     |
| Area of metathorax with distinct rugæ .....               | <i>basilucens</i> , Ckll.   |

#### TRIGONA, Jurine.

The species of this genus known from the Malay region are now so numerous that the accurate identification of those briefly described by Smith is not always easy. I accordingly made the following table from the specimens in the Wilson Saunders collection at Oxford:—

- |  |                            |
|--|----------------------------|
| Entirely testaceous or ferruginous, with hyaline wings: small species .....  | 1.                         |
| Ferruginous; wings fuliginous, hyaline beyond level of end of stigma; front legs red, middle and hind tibiae and tarsi black; abdomen not banded ..... | <i>atripes</i> , Sm.       |
| Colours red and black: comparatively large species .....   | 2.                         |
| Black species, at most with a little pale colour.  | 3.                         |
| 1. Facial quadrangle broader than long; flagellum black .....  | <i>atricornis</i> , Sm.    |
| Facial quadrangle longer than broad; flagellum not so dark .....   | " <i>testacea</i> , Klug." |
| 2. Head black; basal nervure meeting nervulus (a little on basad side); mesothorax red; abdomen shining black, extreme base pale ..                    | <i>thoracica</i> , Sm.     |
| Head red; basal nervure decidedly basad of   |                            |

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broad  
3. First a  
with  
dusky  
basal  
like a  
First a  
4. Wings  
hyali  
Wings  
5. Smaller  
above  
black  
Larger  
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- nervulus; wings clear hyaline, suffused with orange toward base (dusky in *thoracica*); first three abdominal segments fulvous, with broad black margin. .... *fimbriata*, Sm.
3. First abdominal segment very pale testaceous, with a large brown spot on each side; wings dusky, not bicoloured; basal nervure going basad of nervulus; abdomen narrow; looks like a mimic of some fly. .... *ventralis*, Sm.
- First abdominal segment not so coloured .... 4.
4. Wings bicoloured, basal half fuliginous, apex hyaline; scape ferruginous .... 5.
- Wings not bicoloured .... 6.
5. Smaller (anterior wing 6.2 mm.); scape black above; tegula black; mesothorax polished black; fuliginous of wings not so dark .... *collina*, Sm.
- Larger; flagellum entirely pale ferruginous; tegulae pale ferruginous; clypeus paler reddish; abdomen rather broad and short .... *apicalis*, Sm.
6. Small, anterior wing about 4.3 mm.; face with pale pile; scape clear red; mesothorax shining black; tegulae dark; stigma dusky, with broad fuscous margin; abdomen reddish black, parallel-sided. (Aru.) .... *laviceps*, Sm.
- Considerably larger .... 7.
7. Mesothorax and front entirely dull; scape black, testaceous (strongly contrasting) at extreme base; stigma dull ferruginous, without dark margin; hind tibiae racket-shaped; abdomen narrow, first segment with a narrow testaceous margin. (Mt. Ophir.) .... *nitidiventris*, Sm.
- Mesothorax shining .... 8.
8. Larger, length about 7.5 mm., robust, head very broad; abdomen intense black; scape black, red at extreme base; mandibles black, faintly reddish toward apex; face hoary, with pale pubescence; stigma slender, dusky reddish; scutellum covered with black hair. (Wallace's label, "SAR.") .... *canifrons*, Sm.
- Smaller; mandibles dark red except basally; face and front polished, not hoary with pubescence, but naked; scape black, pale at extreme base; stigma dark fuscous; basal nervure exactly meeting nervulus. (Wallace's label, "N.") .... *planifrons*, Sm.

At Cambridge University I found a series of *Trigona* from Borneo, described by Cameron, and made the following table:—

- Entirely ferruginous, except dark hind tibiae and middle and hind basitarsi, and linear black bands across abdomen; the middle tibiae have abundant coarse black hair; large species; mandibles with two sharp black teeth on inner side. .... *flavistigma*, Cam.
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Abdomen red; head black, with red clypeus; thorax red, with fulvous moss-like pubescence above; scape red, black apically, a red mark between antennae; wings hyaline, slightly orange-tinted: rather large species. (Kuching.)

*lacteifasciata*, Cam.

Abdomen rather narrow, parallel-sided, first segment pale yellowish red, with a dark spot at each side, second red, with a median black band, widening posteriorly, third with about basal half on each side dark red; head entirely black; anterior wings 7 mm. long, hyaline, orange-tinted

*erythrogastra*, Cam.

Abdomen black or piceous

1.

1. Wings bicoloured, basal half fuliginous, apical hyaline; scape yellowish red, not black above, but flagellum dark, with underside yellowish ferruginous; tegulae black; face with white pubescence. (Patalung, Malay Peninsula, Skeat.)

[true *collina*].

Wings not bicoloured

"*collina*, Sm.?" (not

2.

2. Scape black, except at extreme base. (Kuching.)

*canifrons*, Sm.

Scape red; face and front with short thin pale hair; small tarsal joints red; wings dusky; mesothorax shining; small species

*testaceitarsis*, Cam.

### *Caelioxys zonula*, Smith.

I found this species, from Santarem, in the Wilson Saunders collection.

♀.—About 18 mm. long.

First three abdominal segments dark red; last dorsal segment much shorter than last ventral, with erect black hair on apical part; last ventral greatly produced, very slender, with long black hair on each side.

*C. gigantea*, Friese, from Pará, is at least very closely allied.

### *Ctenioschelus goryi*, Romand (*latreillei*, Lep.).

Both sexes are in the Oxford collection. The female is very like *Thalestria smaragdina*, Sm., but has a more pronounced cloud at apex of wings. The first recurrent nervure meets the second intercubitus, in *Thalestria* it goes a little beyond it. There is a broad longitudinal band of black hair on mesothorax; in *Thalestria* there is a broad band of black hair across the thorax in front.

As Ducko indicates, the genus *Ctenioschelus* is distinct from *Acanthopus*.

In the Oxford label "Santarem" other only a marginal cell. Also at Oxford a name. In Ckll., and n

Jericho ("agrees with" Is there a S.

The genus The British Uganda, and

At Oxford of *Apis soci* It has a red

In 1864 *Heriades simplex pilosifrons* & *A. producta* *H. simplex* & *pilosifrons* & has priority the species & and I am in reporting on certain that species which the first recurrent from the first ventral segment instead of being Specimens

*Mesotrichia insularis* (Smith).

In the Oxford collection are two males, both with Wallace's label "SAR." (Sarawak). One has expanse 49 mm., the other only about 41. They agree in having only two submarginal cells; first recurrent nervure meeting intercubitus.

Also at Oxford is a pale ♂ *Mesotrichia* from Ceram, without a name. It has exactly the appearance of *M. ceramensis*, Ckll., and no doubt is that species.

*Xylocopa ignita*, Smith.

Jericho (*B. Lowne*), in Oxford collection, with a note—"agrees with this except its wings are more richly purple." Is there a Syrian subspecies?

*Anthophora caerulea*, Friese.

The genuine *caerulea* has blue bands on the abdomen. The British Museum has a good series from Entebbe, Uganda, and Nyassaland.

*Apis indica*, Fabricius.

At Oxford I found in the old Hope Collection a specimen of *Apis socialis*, Latr., labelled in Latreille's handwriting. It has a red scutellum. The abdomen is missing.

*Alcidamea producta* (Cresson).

In 1864 Cresson described three supposedly new bees—*Heriades simplex* ♀, from Connecticut (*Norton*), *Alcidamea pilosifrons* ♂, from the same locality and collector, and *A. producta* ♂, from Virginia. In 1887 he regarded *H. simplex* and *A. producta* as the sexes of one species, and *pilosifrons* as a variety of the same. As the name *simplex* has priority of place in the original publication, I have called the species *Alcidamea simplex*. Recently some doubts arose, and I am indebted to Mr. E. T. Cresson, Jun., for kindly reporting on certain features of the types. It now appears certain that *A. simplex* and *A. pilosifrons* are the sexes of a species which is distinct from *A. producta*. In *A. simplex* the first recurrent nervure ends at a somewhat greater distance from the first intercubitus, and the tubercle on the second ventral segment of the male abdomen is low and broad, instead of being high and produced as in *producta*.

Specimens from Colorado (Florissant and Boulder), and

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those collected by Mr. P. Rau at St. Louis, Missouri, are all  
*A. producta*.

*Megachile gathela*, Cameron.

According to Meade-Waldo, this Indian species (described from Deesa) is identical with *M. nana*, Bingham, from Texas. On examining the specimens in the British Museum, I found this to be an error. Both are true *Megachile*, without pulvilli, but *M. nana* has the ventral scopa all white; the clypeus very densely punctured, with apical margin broadly smooth; supraclypeal area shining, but punctured.

In *M. gathela* the scopa has black hair on the last segment; the clypeus is shining, with an inwardly directed brush of white hair on each side.

In a series of *Megachile* collected by Col. Nurse at Deesa, and supposed to be *M. calioxydes*, Bingham, I find this *M. gathela*, and also *M. katinka*, Nurse, with the ventral scopa ferruginous except at base. I also find *M. gathela* from Pusa, Bengal, July 1907 (Fletcher, 188), and Adderley, Nilgiris, 3000 ft., April 26, 1915 (Dutt; Fletcher, 191).

Bingham's short and unsatisfactory description of *M. calioxydes* may be applicable to *gathela*, and has ten years' priority, but Cresson much earlier called a Mexican species *M. calioxydes*.

*M. katinka* was considered by Meade-Waldo to be *M. hera*, Bingham, and this seems to be correct.

*Megachile perfervida*, Cockerell.

Hongkong.

The type, in the British Museum, is very like *M. ardens*, Sm., superficially, but *ardens* has black hair on face and front and transverse keel along top of clypeus, while *perfervida* has a broad transverse clypeus, with no keel, and face and front with fulvous hair, though there is black hair in the region of the ocelli.

*Heriades striolata* (Cameron).

*Megachile striolata*, Cam., in British Museum, is about 5.5 mm. long, with white abdominal bands and scopa. It has pulvilli, and is a *Heriades*. The basal nervure meets the nervulus.

*Osmia cathena* (Cameron).

*Megachile cathena*, Cam. (Brit. Mus.), is about 5.5 mm.

long, more  
densely pubescent

*Megachile*  
present; the  
ferruginous  
characters of  
*Megachile*  
of *O. indostana*  
is about 6.5

*Megachile*  
pulvilli and  
mandibles  
femora black  
"Megachile"  
*Heriades*, as

The Cameron  
*semireticulata*  
belong to the  
British Museum

*M. ferozeporensis*  
ginous;  
white, black

*M. subfusca*.—  
but with  
reddish  
strongly

*M. semireticulata*  
greenish,  
anterior  
abdomen  
transverse  
all emarginate

*M. obtusata*.—  
antennae  
white hair  
sixth abdominal  
hair above  
with three

long, more robust than the last; pulvilli present; mesothorax densely punctured; tegulae reddened; ventral scopa white.

*Osmia indostana* (Cameron).

*Megachile indostana*, Cam. (Brit. Mus.), ♂. Pulvilli present; tegulae ferruginous; stigma and nervures pale ferruginous; wings clear. By colour of stigma and other characters cannot be the male of *O. cathena*.

*Megachile punjaubensis*, Cam., ♂ ♀, has exactly the aspect of *O. indostana*, but has no pulvilli, and is a *Megachile*. It is about 6.5 mm. long, scopa white.

*Osmia suavida* (Cameron).

*Megachile suavida*, Cam., ♂, in British Museum, has pulvilli and belongs to *Osmia*. Face with dense white hair; mandibles mainly pale; flagellum red; anterior and middle femora black, red at apex; hind legs all red. The female "*Megachile suavida*, Cam.," in the British Museum is a *Heriades*, as I have previously indicated.

The Cameronian species *Megachile ferozeporensis*, *subfusca*, *semireticulata*, *obtusata*, *cratodonta*, and *nicevillii* do actually belong to that genus. The following notes, made at the British Museum, will facilitate recognition:—

*M. ferozeporensis*.—♀, about 9 mm. long; tegulae ferruginous; abdomen with dull white bands; ventral scopa white, black on last segment.

*M. subfusca*.—♂, about 10 mm. long; anterior tarsi simple, but with long white hair behind; hair of thorax above reddish ochraceous; keel of sixth abdominal segment strongly but widely emarginate, without denticulations.

*M. semireticulata*.—♂, about 10.5 mm. long; eyes pale greenish, tinged with vermilion; face quite narrow; anterior tarsi simple, with short white hair behind; abdomen with broad, pale, ochreous-tinted hair-bands; transverse keel of sixth segment obtusely pointed, not at all emarginate, and beset with about ten sharp spines.

*M. obtusata*.—♀, about 6.5 mm.; ventral scopa white. ♂, antennae long and slender; face densely covered with white hair; anterior coxae spined; anterior tarsi simple; sixth abdominal segment densely covered with white hair above, the keel broadly subemarginate in middle, with three sharp teeth on each side.

*M. cratodonta*.—♂, about 6.5 mm.; considerably larger than that sex of *obtusata*, and more robust; transverse keel of sixth segment broadly subemarginate in middle, crenulate on each side, with at least the innermost projection more or less spiniform.

*M. nicevillii*.—About size of *M. ulrica*, Nurse; pubescence dull white; eyes pea-green; head transverse, much broader than in *ulrica*, in which it is oblong; no white band in scutello-mesothoracic suture (there is one in *ulrica*). There is a ♀ *M. ulrica* from Karachi (Comber); it is about 7.3 mm. long, legs reddish, ventral scopa white.

The male of *M. punjaubensis*, Cam., apparently has the keel of sixth segment without spines, but emarginate; it is turned inward and hard to see well.

*Megachile stirostoma*, Cam., ♀, is about 14 mm. long, very black and rugose, but not a *Lithurgus*; abdomen of the parallel-sided type, with white scopa, dark fuscous at tip.

*Megachile aola*, Cameron.

Borneo.

Looks like *M. osea*, Cam., from the same locality, the types of both being males. In *aola* the anterior tarsi have a very long pale red fringe behind; not so *osea*, which is built rather like a ♀.

The following notes on African *Megachile*, made at the British Museum, will facilitate the identification of some difficult species:—

*M. venusta*, Sm., and *gratiosa*, Gerst., look alike. ♀ *gratiosa* has scopa black on last segment, *venusta* (Smith's type) has it red, but they are extremely similar.

*M. harthula*, Cam., looks as if it might be the male of *M. dorsata*, Sm.

*M. marusa*, Cam. (♀ type), is almost exactly *gratiosa* (scopa on last segment with black hair), but differs by scutellum shining between the punctures (scutellum dull in *gratiosa*).

*M. sarna*, Cam. (♂ type), has green eyes; anterior tarsi simple; keel of sixth abdominal segment emarginate; aspect of *gratiosa*.

Two species of *Heriades* and one of *Osmia* from Africa stand in the Museum bearing names of Cameron as species of *Megachile*. I refrain from discussing them, as they seem not to have been published.

A Preliminary

Mega

Smith's ♂ type has with red) area on the Museum (New York) mid-tarsi as *femorata*; they are suffused with in *latimanus* has a deep the emargination has which are irregular.

XXVIII.—A Preliminary Family of Sea-Stack Hopkins Marine Sta

THE present synopsis Asteriidae, available attempt. It may more of stock." Of recent, has greatly increased, and to a more careful the traditional *Asteria* certain sections of the similarity of outward

The larger subhead genera not closely related greater practical value not heretofore employed *asterias* and *Coscinos* cussion of numerous exigencies of space.

The key will be found These cannot be identified panying adult specimens to show their generic I have not been able

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For information and the to Sir S. F. Harmer and (Natural History); to the Museum of Comparative Mr. A. H. Clark, Dr. H. C. to Dr. Th. Mortensen, of the

*Megachile femorata*, Smith.

Smith's ♂ type has a large yellowish (suffused marginally with red) area on mandibles. Male *M. latimanus*, Say, in the Museum (New York, H. Edwards), has the same sort of mid-tarsi as *femorata*; the eyes are green, whereas in *femorata* they are suffused with pale red. The keel of sixth segment in *latimanus* has a deep U-shaped emargination; in *femorata* the emargination has the form of a very wide V, the sides of which are irregular.

XXVIII.—*A Preliminary Synopsis of the Asteroiidae, a Family of Sea-Stars*\*. By W. K. FISHER, Director, Hopkins Marine Station, California.

THE present synopsis is not a thoroughgoing revision of the Asteroiidae, available material being insufficient for such an attempt. It may more properly be considered an "account of stock." Of recent years the number of genera of Asteroiidae has greatly increased, owing to the discovery of new types and to a more careful scrutiny of the forms included within the traditional *Asterias*, *Coscinasterias*, and *Stichaster*. In certain sections of the Asteroiidae the genera present a confusing similarity of outward appearance, which recalls free crinoids.

The larger subheads of the synopsis occasionally associate genera not closely related, but this defect renders the key of greater practical value. Free use has been made of characters not heretofore employed, and certain genera, such as *Orthasterias* and *Coscinasterias*, have been dismembered. Discussion of numerous changes has been deferred owing to exigencies of space.

The key will be found of little value for immature stages. These cannot be identified in most instances without accompanying adult specimens, as young are usually too generalized to show their generic characters.

I have not been able to find satisfactory features by which

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For information and the loan of material the writer is under obligations to Sir S. F. Harmer and Dr. R. Kirkpatrick, of the British Museum (Natural History); to the authorities of the U.S. National Museum, Museum of Comparative Zoology, and Yale Museum (especially to Mr. A. H. Clark, Dr. H. L. Clark, and Dr. W. R. Coe respectively); and to Dr. Th. Mortensen, of the Zoological Museum, Copenhagen.