

DESCRIPTIONS OF NEW COLEOPTERA

AND

NOTE ON ELETICA CASTANEA THOM.

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Some time ago the Department of Agriculture at Bangkok, Thailand, sent me its material of Lagriidae, Alleculidae, and Meloidae for identification. Amongst this material I was so happy to find a number of very interesting new species which are described below. The types of these new specimens are in the collection of the Entomological Section at Bangkok and in mine.

**Eletica castanea Thom.**

This species is not identical with *El. gigantea* Dohrn of which I saw the type. The latter is longer with its elytra nearly opaque and much more closely punctured; the prothorax equally finely and densely punctulate, intermixed with coarser punctures, the basal margin much broader and much more elevated, apex with a narrow deep impression; the head very finely and closely punctulate, not shining, rugosely punctate in front. Prothorax nearly black, antennae blackish, elytra pitchy-black, suture and all margins reddish-brown; apex of the scutellum not emarginate. *El. castanea* Thom. has the head shining, the microscopic sculpture on the vertex very much finer and less close; prothorax shining with microscopic sculpture exceedingly fine, basal margin less distinctly elevate, apex laterally not furrowlike margined; the apex of the scutellum distinctly emarginate; the elytra shining, apex much more sinuate interiorly.

LAGRIIDAE.

**Cerogria siamensis** sp. n.

Moderately shining, not very closely clothed with long semi-erect and longer erect white pubescence. Black; apex of the abdomen lighter, tarsi brownish-black, antennae blackish-brown, except the two basal joints; ♀ brownish-black, segments of the abdomen margined with brown, elytra lighter towards the apex. Head with two strong shining elevations in front of the eyes, punctuation moderately close and rather

coarse, temples a little shorter than one eye, rectangularly and broadly rounded, interspace between the eyes about  $\frac{1}{2}$  diametre; antennae stout, not half as long as the body, moderately deformed, basal joint thick, a little longer than broad, joint 3 obliquely triangular, less than half as long as 4, which is obliquely truncate at the apex, joints 5 to 7 with an edge on the outer margin, joint 8 narrow, as long as 7, 9 and 10 much shorter, joint 9 serrate, 11 narrow, curved, and nearly as long as joints 4 to 10 united (fig. 1). Prothorax much broader than the head, a little longer than broad, rather shining, not closely, obsoletely punctate, the base a little more densely so, sides rather strongly strangulate in the middle, strongly rounded anteriorly, base and apex indistinctly margined; scutellum tongue-shape, white pubescence dense, elytra moderately convex, a little widened towards the apex, somewhat impressed behind the scutellum, rather coarsely, but not closely and rather obsoletely punctured, obsoletely and transversely wrinkled, apices somewhat mucronate; under-surface normal; legs, specially the tibiae, with long piles.

♀. Antennae simple, joint 4 a little longer than 3, joint 11 as long as joints 9 and 10 united.

Length: 10.5–13 mm.

Two specimens from Thailand: Chiangmai, Doi Sutep 2300ft. 21 and 24. vi. 1936. (C. Tongyai).

This new species is very near *C. albohirta* Wied., but is much smaller and has double pubescence; first joint of the antennae is much shorter, third joint quite different, the ninth much more widened and the eleventh thicker and shorter.

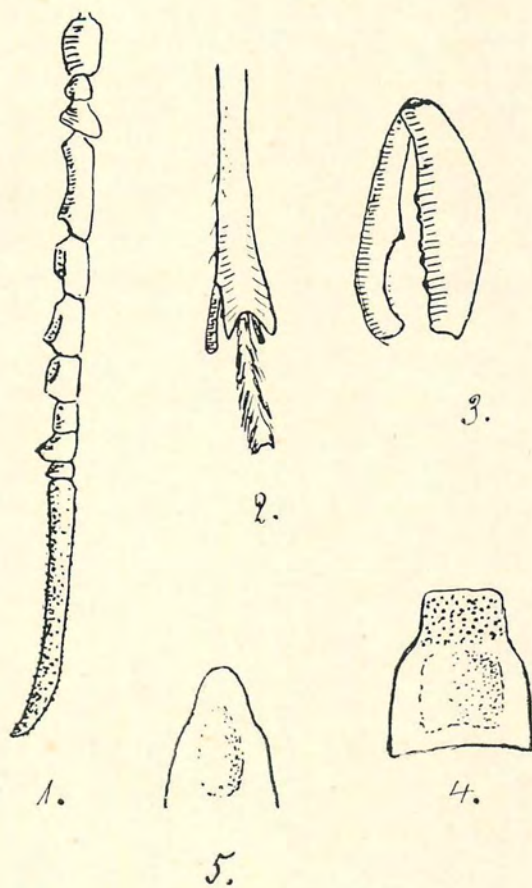
## MELOIDAE.

### ***Epicauta nudomarginata* sp. n.**

Elongate, slightly shining, clothed with dense, rather short, appressed whitish-yellow pubescence; prothorax with two large black haired spots.

Black; base of the tibiae sometimes lighter, head red with black pubescence, labrum and clypeus dark yellow, pilose, tarsi and a rather broad stripe near the margins of the elytra from the shoulder to near the tips black.





1. Antenna of *Cerogria siamensis* ♂.
2. Anterior tibia of *Epicanta fortespinosa* (front-side).
3. Anterior leg of *Allecula oblinerata* ♂.
4. Last abdominal segment of *Allecula oblinerata* ♂.
5. Last segment of ♀.





Head round, finely and sparsely punctulate; eyes lateral, rather small; antennae filiform, a little longer than the head and the prothorax united, clothed with short black hair, the third joint as long as joints 4 and 5 united. Prothorax quadrate, as broad as the head, smoothly canaliculate along the middle, finely and rather sparsely punctate, base finely margined. Elytra loosely and finely punctate, apices rounded. Femora and tibiae of the anterior legs stout, tibiae somewhat curved, inner spur nearly half as long as the first tarsal joint, outer spur shorter, thin, somewhat curved, upper tarsal edge a little widened, bilobed, spurs of the hind tarsi short, acute, outer spur a little spoon-shaped.

Length: 10-14 mm.

Eight specimens from Thailand: Bangkok 8. iv. 28. (Pol), Chainad 21. ix. 30. (Srinual), Korat 16. viii. 36. (Beller).

This species differs from its red-headed congeners by the stout spurs of the anterior tarsi and the strange, apparently bare stripe near the margins of the elytra.

***Epicauta nudomarginata rufipes* var. n.**

Legs red, tibiae of the tibiae and the tarsi black, tomentum of the elytra much thinner, sometimes with a stripe of black hair near the suture, spurs of the anterior tibiae stouter.

Six specimens from Thailand: Bangkok 8. iv. 28. (Pol).

***Epicauta fortispinosa* sp. n.**

Head and prothorax moderately shining, clothed with black, fine, and short pubescence, suture and margins of the elytra and of the prothorax with narrow white pubescence, anterior coxae, under-surface of the anterior femora, and the outer edge of the tibiae with white pubescence, median and hind femora sprinkled with white hair, pulvilli yellowish.

Black; head and oral organs red, labrum and clypeus dark, antennae black with brownish tomentum, basal joints reddish at the base.

Head rather finely and sparsely punctured, pubescence short and black, occiput finely canaliculate, temples long, somewhat angular;



eyes narrow, lateral; antennae filiform, not reaching the middle of the body, third joint somewhat shorter than the fourth and fifth united. Prothorax quadrate, rather shining, finely and rather closely punctate, deeply and finely channelled at the base, flanks parallel, anterior angles rounded, base finely margined. Scutellum black. Elytra very finely and closely punctured, apices broadly and separately rounded. Undersurface very closely and finely punctured, covered with short black hair. Legs rather stout; anterior tibiae shorter than the femora, inner tip somewhat lobed, spur long and staff-shaped, apex blunt, the outer spur stouter, median tibiae a little curved, spurs thinner, those of the hind tibiae acute, somewhat broad, feebly excavate, tarsi of the fore and hind legs longer than the tibiae. (fig. 2).

Length: 11.5-14.5 mm.

Seven specimens from Thailand: Chiangmai 1000ft., 19. vi. 36. (Tongyai).

This species is distinguished by its stout, staff-shaped spurs of the anterior and median tibiae. It resembles somewhat *E. hirticornis* Haag, but the suture of the elytra and the flanks of the prothorax are white; antennae of the males are shortly and uniformly pubescent, and the spurs of the tibiae are shaped quite differently.

***Cylindrothorax pallida* sp. n.**

Slender, reddish-testaceous; elytra with a short obscure line below the shoulders, antennae black, except the basal two joints and the basal half of the third joint, apex of the femora more or less obscure, tibiae and tarsi black, abdomen here and there brownish, apex of the elytra sometimes narrowly obscure.

Head moderately punctured; antennae long, filiform, somewhat flattened, third joint a little shorter than the fourth; temples nearly as long as one eye, angularly rounded. Prothorax narrower than the head, longer than broad, broadly and transversely impressed before the apex and roundly foveate before the base. Elytra not quite twice as broad as the base of the prothorax, very finely and closely punctured, pubescence rather fine, dense, yellow, apices separately rounded. Spurs of the anterior and the median tibiae slender,



those of the hind tibiae stouter, acute, the inner one thicker. Abdomen with six segments.

Length: 13-15.5 mm.

Two specimens from Siam: Korat 17. xi. 32. (Pol), and 9. ix. 36. (Beller).

From the description, the new species is very similar to *Epicauta semitestacea*, Frm. from Kanara, but *E. semitestacea* has the abdomen brownish, except the last two segments which are yellow, its head is rugosely punctured, its prothorax oval, the elytra have the angles of the suture "recto."

#### ALLECULIDAE.

##### ***Allecula oblinerata* sp. n.**

Elongate, slightly shining; elytra very finely, sparsely covered with slightly decumbent yellowish pubescence, intermixed with longer black hair. Blackish-brown; elytra sometimes obscurely reddish-brown, basal half of the femora and the coxae yellowish, tarsi sometimes of dark reddish-brown, antennae ferruginous, base of the joints somewhat lighter.

Head densely and moderately finely punctured, the apex of the labrum and the clypeus, and the oral organs lighter; labrum strongly transverse, apex emarginate, last joint of the palpi triangular; that of the maxillary palpi equilaterally triangular with the anterior edge long; antennae filiform, two-thirds as long as the body, joint 4 distinctly longer than the third, distance between the eyes  $\frac{1}{2}$  ( $\sigma$ ), and ( $\varphi$ ) one diametre, temples ( $\sigma$ ) lacking, ( $\varphi$ ) very short, neck broad. Prothorax quadrate, a little broader than the head, slightly convex, thickly and finely punctured, slightly narrowed towards the apex, sides rounded, all sides finely margined, anterior angles rounded, basal angles at right angle, the middle of the disc with a feeble broad channel and a shallow fovea at the base. Scutellum tongue-shaped, finely and sparsely punctured. Elytra narrowed towards the apex, base somewhat gibbous, striae moderately strong, weaker towards the apex, punctures moderately closely placed, interstices slightly convex, sparsely and finely punctured, each



puncture bearing a short bristle, each interstice with a broad opaque stripe, beginning a little below the base and ending at the apex, apices narrowly and separately rounded; epipleurae coarsely and densely punctured near the shoulders, pectus strongly and rather closely, abdomen very closely and finely punctured; undersurface clothed with very fine yellowish pubescence; legs stout, anterior femora strongly thickened, tibiae slightly curved, anterior pair ( $\sigma$ ) with a rather stout tooth a little behind the middle, excavated and curved behind this tooth (fig. 3), the anterior tarsi have the joints 1 to 4, the median 3 to 4, and the hind joint 3 more or less lamellate, the metatarsus of the hind legs as long as the following joints united. The last abdominal segment of the male broadly and shallowly impressed, and strongly rectangularly produced (fig. 4).

$\varphi$ , elytra sometimes brown; anterior tibiae unarmed, tarsi lamellate as in the male, last abdominal segment produced, bluntly rounded. (fig. 5).

Length: 8.5-10 mm.

Eight specimens from Thailand: Chiangmai 1000ft., 17, 18, 20. vi. 36. (Tongyai).

This species is at once distinguished by the peculiar structure of its elytral interstices.

#### ***Allecula poli* sp. n.**

A little less elongate than the preceding species. Uniformly blackish-brown; elytra brownish, antennae somewhat lighter towards the apex, sparsely covered with yellowish brown hair.

Moderately shining. Head rather closely and moderately coarsely punctured; labrum very feebly emarginate, last joint of the palpi triangular, inner lobe a little longer; last joint of the maxillary palpi very broad, inner lobe much longer; interval between the eyes almost one diameter; antennae rather stout, third joint nearly as long as the fourth, temples very short. Prothorax transverse, convex, much broader than the head, rather coarsely and closely punctured, all sides margined, anterior angles almost rounded, basal angles right angle. Scutellum tongue-shaped. Elytra not quite twice as broad as the base of pronotum, striae moderately coarse, very much finer



posteriorly, at base a little narrower than the interstices which are moderately convex, sparsely and finely punctulate. ♂, inner tip of the suture acutely produced, epipleurae as in *A. oblinerata*. Last abdominal segment rounded, reddish. Legs stout; anterior femora thickened, anterior and median tibiae strongly curved, the posterior pair slightly less, femora very finely and closely somewhat transversely rimosely punctulate. ♂, anterior tarsi lacking, the median ones have the joints 3 and 4, the posterior ones the third joint lamellate. ♀, anterior tarsi with joints 3 and 4 lamellate.

Length: 11–11.5 mm.

Two specimens from Thailand: Shajeung Zoa 7. x. 33. (Pol).

This species resembles *A. oblinerata*, but has the legs unicolorous, the anterior tibiae of ♂ simple, and the intervals of the striae are of common sculpture.

