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Two new species of *Corticeus* PILLER & MITTERPACHER, 1783 from the Neotropical faunal area (Col.: Tenebrionidae: Hypophlaeini)

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Abstract

Two new species of *Corticeus* PILLER & MITTERPACHER, 1783 (Col.: Tenebrionidae; Hypophlaeini) are described and illustrated: *Corticeus* s. str. *hintoni* from Mexico and *Corticeus* (*Tylophloeus*) *telnovi* from St. Vincent, West Indies.

Introduction

A revision of the Hypophlaeini of the Neotropical area including the species of the genus *Corticeus* PILLER & MITTERPACHER, 1783 has been published recently (BREMER 2018). However, the two *Corticeus* species described in this paper had been found in the stores of old material in the BMNH after publication of this revision. These two species belong to two different subgenera of *Corticeus*. The subgenera of *Corticeus* had been defined more precisely by BREMER & LILLIG (2017).

Abbreviation

BMNH = The Natural History Museum, London, UK.

Descriptions

Corticeus s. str. *hintoni* sp. n.

Holotype, sex undetermined, BMNH: Guanajuato [21.01N-101.15W]; Brit. Mus. 1975-611.
Paratype, sex undetermined, BMNH: Mexico, R. de Arriba, VII,1932, H. E. HINTON; Brit. Mus. 1934-375.

Diagnosis. Belongs to the subgenus *Corticeus o*f the subgenus *Corticeus*: Body of medium size. Frons wide, eyes small. Pronotum relatively wide and compact when compared with elytra, pronotum and elytra markedly convex transversely; anterior angles of pronotum deflexed, angular, obtuse, not protruding forward. I am not aware of a related species among *Corticeus* of the New World.

Coloration. Head and pronotum dark brown; disc of elytra brown, lateral parts of elytra dark brown; antennomeres 6-11 black, 1-5 brown to dark brown; pygidium brown.

Head. Eyes small. Frons wide, slightly convex transversely; relatively densely punctured with small punctures. Fronto-clypeal suture not incised. Genae flat, discernible towards anterior margin of head; clypeus between genae only slightly convex transversely, clypeus and genae covered with small punctures of the same size, ground of these punctures microreticulated. Antennae short.

Pronotum. Relatively compact; transversely markedly convex, longitudinally less convex. Sides and posterior margin bordered, the lateral borders not integrated into the transverse convexity and well visible from above. Surface with slight microreticulation and lustrous, with small punctures which are regularly distributed and set in some distance. Anterior angles as outlined in *Diagnosis*. Hind angles slightly pointed, obtuse. Posterior margin somewhat protruded towards elytra.

Scutellum: Posterior part curved. Elytra subcylindrical; markedly convex transversely; apex rounded; anterior margin straight; surface with rows of medium sized, relatively densely set punctures; intervals flat, with tiny punctures which are wider set than the punctures of the rows.
Pygidium. Half oval, with tiny, not very dense punctures.

Underside. Eyes reach to the middle of base of mandibles, distance between eyes is definitely wider than width of mentum. Prosternum anterior to process microreticulated, lustrous and impunctate; episterna

with distinct, relatively dense punctures; prosternal process only slightly bent downwards posterior to procoxae, apically straight.

Legs. On outer side the mesotibiae are sharply pointed apically. Tarsal formula 5-5-4.

Measurements (the first numbers belong to the holotype). Body length: 4.63 + 4.87 mm. Body width: 1.70 + 1.73 mm. Length/width pronotum 1.08 + 1.10. Length/width elytra: 2.08 + 2.15.

Etymology. The name of this species concerns to H. E. HINTON (1912-1977), British Entomologist, who grew up in Mexico, had been staff member of the BMNH, and, later-on, was Professor of Zoology at the University Bristol.

Fig. 1: Photograph of *Corticeus hintoni* sp. n.;

Fig. 2: Antenna and pronotum.

Addition to the determination key of American Hypophlaeini (BREMER 2018):

Starting with couplet 19:

– Species of the USA and Mexico 20

– Species from Central America south of Mexico ..... ***coynei* TRIPLEHORN** (concerning ***coynei***, see BREMER 2018, p.86)

20 Front corners of pronotum obtuse and not pointedly protruding 20a

– Front corners of pronotum more or less pointedly protruding 21

20a Stouter. Pronotum and elytra wider and shorter: length/width pronotum 0.96-1.06; length/width elytra 1.96-2.00, anterior angles of pronotum rounded: ..... proceed at ***strublei*** (BREMER 2018, p.86)

– Body shape more elongated; anterior angles of pronotum angular, widely obtuse; length/width pronotum 1.08: length width elytra 2.08 ..... ***hintoni* sp. n.**

***Corticeus* (*Tylophloeus*) *telnovi* sp. n.**

Holotype, sex undetermined, BMNH: Leeward Side, St. Vincent, W. I., 31.

Diagnosis: Small, subcylindrical. Elytra of medium length. Frons narrow. Anterior angles of pronotum rounded. Belongs to subgenus *Tylophloeus* Bremer, 1998: tarsal formula 4-4-4; dorsal edges of mesotibiae are terminating with pointed angles.

Coloration: Light brown are elytra except the part around scutellum, underside and legs; elytra around scutellum, pronotum and head somewhat deeper brown; pygidium brown.

Head. Frons narrow; slightly convex longitudinally, densely punctured; fronto-clypeal suture curved, deeply incised; genae laterally sinusoidal, reaching to anterior margin of head, they are somewhat lighter brown than the clypeus, and their punctures are smaller than those of clypeus; clypeus moderately convex longitudinally and transversely.

Pronotum. As wide as long; distinctly convex transversely, less convex longitudinally; anterior angles deflexed, widely rounded; hind angles less deflexed, very obtusely angled; sides and hind margin finely bordered, lateral borders are visible from above, the lateral parts of hind margin are somewhat emarginated, the median part of hind margin is nearly straight. Surface slightly microreticulated and irregularly punctured, puncturess small.

Elytra. Subcylindrical, laterally straight, very convex transversely, lateral borders not visible from above, apex rounded; surface irregularly and densely punctured, punctures somewhat larger than on pronotum, not forming rows.

Pygidium. Half oval; with tiny, widely separated punctures.

Underside. Width between eyes corresponds to width of mentum. Prosternum in front of prosternal process only with a few small punctures; prosternal episterna with distinct, closely set punctures of medium size; prosternal process bent downwards just behind procoxae. Mesosternum with large, dense punctures which have a microreticulated ground. Disc of metasternum only with a few tiny punctures, episterna with distinct punctures of medium size. Disc of sternites with minute, widely separated punctures.

Legs. Mesotibiae apically on outer side sharply pointed. Tarsal formula 4-4-4.

Measurements. Body length: 2.62 mm. Length/width of pronotum: 1.00; length/width of elytra 1.98. Width frons/width one eye 1.1:1.0.

Fig. 3: *Corticeus* (*Tylophloeus*) *telnovi* sp. n.;

Fig. 4: Head, antennae and pronotum.

Differential diagnosis: *C. telnovi* resembles *C. sordidus* CHAMPION, 1913 from Guatemala and Panama. The pronotum of *C. sordidus* is shorter than the pronotum of *C. telnovi* (length/width of pronotum of *C. sordidus* 1.16), also its elytra are shorter than those of *C. sordidus* with a length/width 2.19. *Corticeus plaumanni* BREMER, 1990 also resembles *C. telnovi*; *C. plaumanni* is only known from the SE of Brazil (S. Catarina); C. *plaumanni* presents a much denser punctation of the pronotum than *C. telnovi*; the pronotum of *C. plaumanni* is distinctly microreticulated, that of *C. telnovi* has only a slight microreticulation, and it is more lustrous.

Body length of *C. telnovi* is 2.62 mm, that of *C. sordidus* is 2.84 mm, that of *C. plaumanni* is 1.72-2,80 mm; length/width of pronotum of *C. telnovi* is 1.00, that of *C. sordidus* is 1.16, that of *C. plaumanni* is 1.10-1.16; length/width of elytra of *C. telnovi* is 1.98, that of *C. sordidus* is 2.19, that of *C. plaumanni* is 1.94-2.02.

In their anterior part the genae of *C. plaumanni* are integrated into the transverse convexity of clypeus, and only the hind part of genae are visible; this is not true for *C. telnovi*. The genae of *C. telnovi* and *C. sordidus* are flat and well separated from the clypeus; the antennomeres 5-11 of *C. telnovi* and of *C. sordidus* are clearly widened when compared with the antennomeres 2-4, while the antennomeres 6-11 of *C plaumanni* are clearly widened when compared with their preceding antennomeres; the frons of *C. sordidus* and the frons of *C. plaumanni* are somewhat wider than the frons of *C. telnovi.* The body color of *C. telnovi* and of *C. sordidus* is somewhat lighter than the body color of *C. plaumanni.*

Etymology. Dedicated to Dr. Dmitry TELNOW, BMNH, who affably and frequently assissed me in my entomological work.

Addition to the determination key of American Hypophlaeini (BREMER 2018):

Alterations begin with couplet 12

12 Frons narrow, confusedly punctured, genae flat and discernible towards the frontal side of head where they roundedly pass over into the anterior margin of clypeus; elytra subcylindrical; body length >2.62 mm; clypeus less convex transversely; the elytra somewhat or clearly longer than the elytra of the following species; not known from the Amazon area 12a

– Somewhat smaller (body length 2.02-2.45 mm), occurring in the Amazon area; clypeus convex longitudinally and transversely, with distinct, moderately dense punctures, and with hairs in males; length/width of elytra 1.80-1.92. Only known in the Amazon area of Peru where this species frequently occurs ..... ***dillerae* BREMER**

12a Species known from Central America; length width ratio of elytra 2.20-2.24: length/width ratio of pronotum 1.16+1.17; head and pronotum reddish brown, elytra yellowish brown, moderately microreticulated; legs, antennae, pygidium yellow. Body length 2.61+2,84 mm (Guatemala, Panama) ..... ***sordidus* CHAMPION**

– Species known only from St. Vincent, West Indies; length/width ratio of elytra 1.98; length width of pronotum 1.00; body color of *C. sordidus* and of *C. telnovi* is similar. Body length 2.62 mm (St. Vincent)..... ***telnovi* sp. n.**

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