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NEW PLATYPODID FROM AUSTRALIA

Contribution 148 to the morphology and taxonomy of the Scolytoidea

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Mr A. N. Burns, when Curator of Insects at the National Museum of Victoria, sent to me three specimens of a new Platypodid from New South Wales. Three further specimens from Victoria were supplied later. The species is rather difficult to place in one of the known groups or within the genus *Platypus* Herbst but will, most probably, represent the type of a new division. This question will be dealt with elsewhere.

Platypus incompertus n.sp.

(Pl. 6)

All specimens most probably are males. Reddish brown, 6.5 mm long, 1.5 mm wide.

Front flat, with a shallow depression in the upper half, very densely covered with coarse punctures, the narrow interspaces minutely punctulate, pubescence sparse, almost absent in the anterior half, rather long towards the vertex.

Pronotum longer than wide (ratio 1.23 : 1 or 12.5 : 10.2 lines on my micrometer) covered with shallow punctures of varying size and density, surface of interspaces with silky shine, minutely punctulate; the median sulcus very long, extending a little beyond the centre, in the median third of the pronotum surrounded by an elongate heart-shaped patch of fine, very densely placed and uniform sized punctures, pubescence sparse but rather long; femoral emarginations long and moderately deep.

Elytra slightly wider (1.11 : 1 or 11.3 : 10.2 on micrometer) and 2.4 times longer than pronotum, the sides subparallel on the basal three fifths, thence slightly and obliquely narrowed, the apex transverse up to the fifth interstice, declivity commencing at the posterior quarter, obliquely convex; disc striate-punctate, the striae rather narrow and well defined, the stria punctures small and densely placed; the interstices flat, moderately wide, minutely punctulate, with silky shine and a row of additional small and sparsely placed punctures along the middle; the base of the third interstice slightly widened, somewhat elevated and transversely rugose; declivity with the striae distinctly more impressed, the interstices more convex, each of them with a rather regular row of densely placed pointed tubercles, those of the first interstices distinctly smaller than the following ones, a set of similar but larger serrations along the lateral margins up to the postero-lateral angles, the posterior quarter of the declivity somewhat flattened, and steeper, the tubercles of the interstices noticeably reduced.

TYPE MATERIAL: Holotype ♂ in the National Museum of Victoria (T 134) Eden, N.S.W. 23 Oct. 1953. L. H. Bryant ex *Eucalyptus siberiana* Ireland Timms Ltd.

Five paratypes ♂ ♂: 1 paratype Eden, N.S.W. (data as for holotype) K. E. Schedl Collection; 2 paratypes Woodhouse Creek, North of Omeo, Vict. Nov. 1964

ex *Eucalyptus delegatensis* in Nat. Mus. Vict. Collection (T 3731; T 3732); 2 paratypes nr. Omeo, Vict, Nov. 1965. One in K. E. Schedl and one in Nat. Mus. Vict. Collections (T 3733).

DISTRIBUTION: SE. New South Wales and Eastern Victoria.

Explanation of Plate

PLATE 6

Platypus incompertus n.sp., holotype male. Left: dorsal view. Right: lateral view.

