

ON NEW AUSTRALIAN SPECIES OF *TROX* (COL.).

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My revision of the Australian members of the Genus *Trox* which I started about one year ago, has been published in the Entomol. Arbeiten Mus. Frey, Munich, v. 2, 1954. The present notes and descriptions complete the mentioned paper, and were made possible only by the kindness of Mr. A. N. Burns, Melbourne, who generously made available the specimens of the National Museum of Victoria for examination. In this connexion I would like to thank Director R. T. M. Pescott, Mr. Burns, and his Assistant Curator A. Neboiss.

Trox ovalis sp. n. (Plate I., fig. 1).

A black species of moderate size and with short wings.

Head with two transverse tubercles on the forehead. Apex of the clypeus acute.

Pronotum strongly convex. Lateral margins bisinuated. Posterior angles little rounded. The central pair of the discal ridges strongly elevated diverging in a curve in the middle of the pronotum, the next pair interrupted in the middle, the lateral tubercles comparatively strong. Scutellum small.

Elytra oval, base nearly straight without humeral callus, the small teeth on the lateral margins obtused, towards the apex crenulated. The tubercles of the elytra are more or less rounded to oval except four or five near the base of the first row which are elongate, forming a costa to the middle of the elytra. The tubercles on the intervals small and much less elevated. Anterior tibiae with only a single small tooth which is placed on the outer edge one-third from the apex.

Holotype (female) in the National Museum of Victoria, Melbourne.

Length, 12 mm.; breadth, 6.5 mm.

Hab. "Alligator River", Australia.

This species belongs to the group characterized by short wings and differs from *T. tasmanicus* Blackburn and *T. elongatus* Haaf by the strongly bisinuate margins of its pronotum.

Trox rotundulus sp. n. (Plate I., fig. 2).

A comparatively large, unwinged species, notable for its characteristic form and sculpture of the elytra.

The head is regularly and deeply punctured without frontal tubercles. The apex of the clypeus acute.

The pronotum only less convex with large and small punctures, laterally granulated, margins crenulated, moderately curved and very feebly sinuated near the hind angles, converging to the apex. The two pairs of longitudinal ridges are slender, the inner pair does not extend to the base. Scutellum very small, deeply sunk in the base of the elytra.

Elytra soldered together forming a circle, without a humeral callus. Lateral margin granulated with elongate, hair-like setae. The first row of tubercles on the elytra is elevated and the small tubercles are confluent longitudinally forming a long carina and ending in a single large tubercle. The next row is distinct but not confluent bearing only a large tubercle like the first row. The intervals have still smaller tubercles, also a double row of punctures with small granules near the rim. Besides the apical tooth, which is bifid, there are three very strong external teeth on the front tibiae.

Length, 19 mm.; breadth, 12 mm.

Central Australia.

Holotype (male) in the National Museum of Victoria, Melbourne.

This species, of which I have seen only one specimen, is remarkable for the soldered, circular elytra, which bear altogether four large tubercles on the apical part and the numerous smaller tubercles running together into a costiform appearance in the first principal row. *T. rotundulus* is very distinct from any other species known to me but it is perhaps nearest to *T. elderi* Blackburn (Plate I., fig 3), which however, differs from it by the larger size and much larger tubercles in the first, second, and third row on the elytra. It differs from *T. gigas* Harold and *T. regalis* Haaf by the non-dentate lateral margins of its elytra.

TROX ELDERI Blackburn (Plate I., fig. 3).

This is a very rare unwinged species. The characters are not easy to express in words in respect to the other related species. Therefore I should add the photograph.

TROX GIGAS Har. (Plate I., figs. 4-6).

The comparison of more specimens of *T. gigas* Har. with examples of which I redescribed in my revision is of particular interest in view of the variation of this species. The hitherto unknown forms undoubtedly belong to the same species but differ from the typical feature (fig. 5) by the following characteristics: The teeth on the lateral margins of the elytra are smaller and much numerous (fig. 4) or the central pair of the longitudinal ridges of the pronotum are broader and obtused (fig. 6).

TROX STRZELECKENSIS Blackb.

The collection of the Nat. Mus. of Victoria contains some specimens belonging to *T. strzeleckensis* Blackb. Two of these differ from the type by the sculpture and size. The humeral callus is granulated, the tubercles of the first principal-row are less numerous but larger and shining. The intervals on the elytra have much smaller tubercles.



1



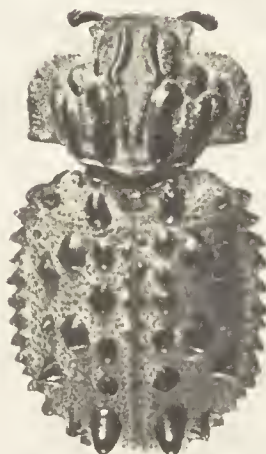
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3



4



5



6

EXPLANATION OF PLATE I.

- Fig. 1.—*TROX OVALIS* sp. nov. Holotype (female) Nat. length, 12 mm.
Fig. 2.—*TROX ROTUNDULUS* sp. nov. Holotype (male) Nat. length, 19 mm.
Fig. 3.—*TROX ELDERI* Blackb. Nat. length, 24.5 mm.
Fig. 4.—*TROX GIGAS* Har. Nat. length, 23 mm.
Fig. 5.—*TROX GIGAS* Har. Nat. length, 25 mm.
Fig. 6.—*TROX GIGAS* Har. Nat. length, 23.5 mm.

The photographs were taken by Mrs. L. Dorfmueller-Laubmann, Munich (Germany).