

One, on a point, collected by G. J. Spencer at the University campus, 24 March 1945 from *Microtus serpens*, Merr.

One, on a point, collected by a student at 4200 ft., Silverhill mine, Tulameen, B.C., 12 Aug. 1955, from *Sorex* sp. This man, a student taking his doctorate in wild life management at this University, told me that the beetle was common on a number of small rodents that he had trapped in 1955, but since he was interested only in fleas, lice and ticks he discarded the beetles. He is working in the same territory this summer, 1956, and has promised to keep for me all that he collects. This species is supposed to be a nest inhabitant, but all our specimens have been taken from the fur of their hosts.

The main beaver parasite in this Province seems to be *Leptinellus validus* (Horn) or a species so labelled by G. Hopping. All our specimens are from 4 to 4.2 mm. long. Resembling young cockroaches in shape, they are in that respect like other members of this

family, although not so flat. They are much darker coloured. The elytra are tightly locked together, or fused on the meson. In general they agree with Park's and Barnes' description, quoted from Jeannel, 1922. Records include:

One, on a point, collected with seven larvae at Lempriere, B.C., 15 May 1944, by O. French.

Twenty-one, on points, collected by Game Warden E. Holmes at Bowron Lakes, 10 Sept. 1949.

Forty-five, in alcohol, same date, place and collector, making 67 specimens of this species.

Finally, the third North American species *Leptinus (Leptinellus) aplodontiae* Ferris 1918, is specific to the mountain beaver *Aplodontia* sp. Our record is:

Four specimens on one slide, 2 males and 2 females, collection by Dr. C. Andresen Hubbard at Fort Dick, California, 8 Aug. 1943 from *Aplodontia pacifica*.

SOME RECORDS OF CER CERIDAE FROM BRITISH COLUMBIA (SPHECOIDEA : HYMENOPTERA)

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Continuing the task of getting named the insects of this Province, which I have collected for the University over the years, I assembled the sphecoid wasps Ceroceridae and sent them to Professor Emeritus Herman A. Scullen of Oregon State College who had volunteered to name them. I am deeply indebted to Professor Scullen who not only named and returned my collection in short order, retaining only one specimen for further study, but even added a male and female each, of three species which we did not have. Such generosity on the part of a systematist is indeed exceptional and merits special mention and thanks which are herewith gratefully extended.

Most writers on the Hymenoptera and authors of text books place these wasps in the Family Ceroceridae of the superfamily Sphecoidea: the Synoptic Catalogue of the Hymenoptera of America North of Mexico by Muesebeck, Krombein, Townes *et al.*, places them in the Superfamily Sphecoidea, Family Sphecidae, Sub-Family Philanthinae, Tribe Cerocerini. I have used the older nomenclature.

These small black and yellow, hard-bodied wasps are apparently not well represented in this Province. Whenever I encountered them in the course of some 28 years general collecting, I always captured them, but the collection contains only 83 specimens of four species, all but five of my own

collecting. Their habits are difficult to study and have not been well worked out, but as far as known, they provision their nests with small to medium-sized weevils.

In the records following, I have taken their continental distribution and records of prey from the Synoptic Catalogue of Hymenoptera.

Cerceris californica Cresson. Recorded from "Southwestern States". We have three males from Kamloops taken during June and July. No prey records given.

Cerceris nigrescens Smith. Recorded from the northern States and southern Canada, from the Pacific to the Atlantic. We have 25 specimens of *C. nigrescens* taken from the dry belt, from Kelowna to the Chilcotin and from Royal Oak near Victoria; they were captured from May to August. Prey is recorded as (a) *Hyperodes delumbis* (Gyll) of which we have no specimens; but a close relative *H. interstitialis* (Dietz) occurs in the Nicola Valley; (b) *Sitona hispidula* (Fab.) which is common all over the dry belt; (c) *Gymnaetron* sp., of which genus we have *G. tetrum*, the mullein weevil, from Kamloops and Chilliwack; (d) *G. antirrhini* Payk. which occurs in Vancouver.

Cerceris sextoides Banks. Listed as occurring from Washington to California. No prey is recorded for this species. We have 41 specimens, all from Kamloops, collected during the summer months.

Encerceris flavocincta Cresson. Recorded from the Rocky Mountains and the West at 2000 ft. and above. We have 14 specimens taken from May to July, from Oliver to the Chilcotin and two males from near Nanaimo on tide-water. This apparently, is a new and unusual altitudinal record. The prey is listed as *Dyslobius lecontei* Casey, of which we have only two specimens, both from Victoria; but *D. verrucifer* Casey occurs all over the dry belt and *D. granicollis* (Lec.) at Langley, Victoria and Cowichan.

The gift species from Professor Scullen are a male and female each of *Encerceris montana* Cresson, *E. canaliculata* (Say) and *E. tricolor* Cockerell, of which none has apparently been recorded from Canada.

Doubtless several more species will be recorded for this Province, but at present I record only four native ones and three from outside British Columbia.

THE LIFE HISTORY OF *EUTHYATIRA SEMICIRCULARIS* GRT. (LEPIDOPTERA: THYATIRIDAE)

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The handsome moth *Euthyatira semicircularis* Grt. turns up occasionally at light in May and June, but is by no means common on southern Vancouver Island, as far as my experience goes.

It has a wing expanse of 40 to 45 mm. Its colour is a blend of various shades of grey and brown, with a series of dark semicircular lines crossing the fore-wings, concave towards the wing bases, a characteristic which

has evidently prompted the specific name. A white basal patch and a light grey area on the wing tips contrasts with the prevailing soft greys and browns. When at rest, with the wings closely applied to the body, the moth resembles a piece of dead, broken-off twig so closely as to make detection difficult even for the practised eye.

In British Columbia this moth appears to be confined to southern