

BIDESSUS LEACHI, A NEW SPECIES OF DYTISCID WATER BEETLE FROM NORTHERN CALIFORNIA (Coleoptera)¹

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***Bidessus leachi* n. sp.**

A large species, black broadly maculate with yellow; resembling and most closely allied to *B. plicipennis* (Crotch). Male shining above, female alutaceous. Belongs to *Glypcodytes*.

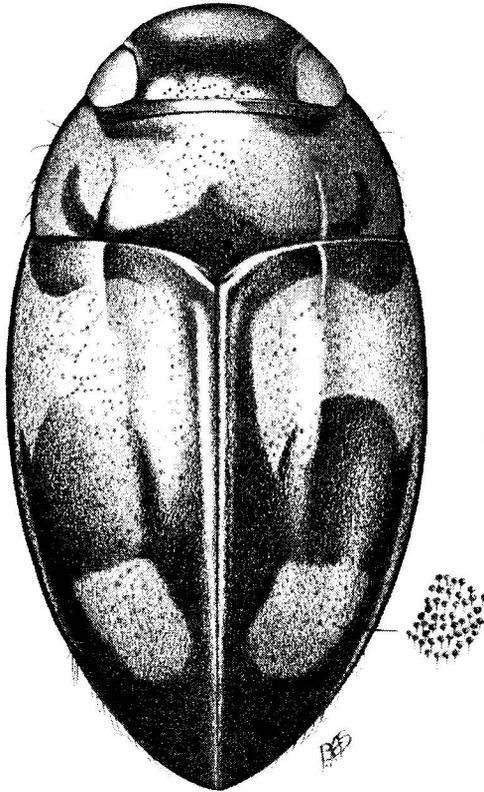


Fig. 1. *Bidessus leachi* n. sp., holotype male.

MALE. Length 2.12 mm., width 1.15 mm. Elongate-oval, widest at middle, moderately convex, disk of elytra flattened. Head dark brown, four basal antennal segments yellow, remainder infuscate. Pronotum yellow, except for a basal area between plicae (see fig. 1) which is reddish brown to piceus, and two lateral lunules

indicating internal muscle attachments. Elytra black to piceous, broadly marked with yellow as in figure 1; the ante- and post-median yellow areas may be joined laterally along the elytral margin, but not discally. Underparts pale to dark brown, sides of abdominal sternites piceous.

Head faintly reticulated, finely irregularly punctate, punctures dense on sides and posteriorly; clypeus distinctly margined at middle anteriorly. Pronotum polished between punctures, the latter rather coarse and densely but not regularly distributed on disk, finer and sparser between

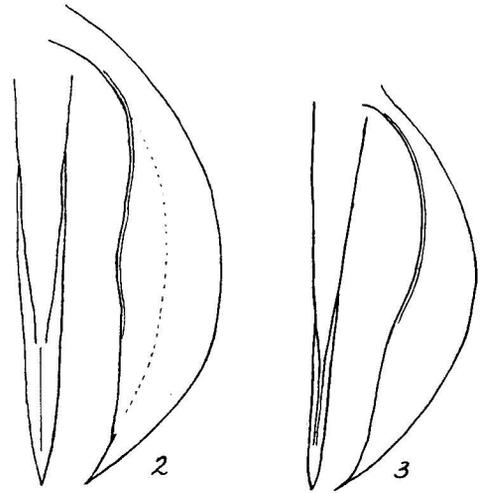


Fig. 2. Aedeagus of *Bidessus plicipennis* (Cr.), dorsal view of apical two-thirds on left, profile on right.

Fig. 3. Same, of *B. leachi* n. sp. Both figures drawn to the same scale.

plicae and sides; lateral marginal bead fine, progressively wider posteriorly; plicae extending midway across pronotum. Elytra flattened and depressed from base to declivity on disk, from just within plicae, giving the illusion of a carina continuing back from near each plica; plicae subequal to those on pronotum. Punctuation of disk denser and a little coarser than that of pronotum, sometimes forming chains, becoming finer apically and espe-

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cially toward sides; each puncture giving rise to a fine golden recumbent hair; sutural margin slightly raised and more finely punctate, suggesting a poorly defined sutural stria. *Prosternal* process slightly widening apically, sharply margined to near tip, median area depressed, sparsely pubescent, apex broadly pointed. *Metasternum* and metacoxal plates coarsely punctate, punctures separated by less than their own widths and tending to form chains; first two visible abdominal sternites coarsely punctate at sides; epipleurae finely irregularly punctate. Pro- and mesotarsi slightly wider than in female, pro-tarsal claws simple; metacalcaria simple.

FEMALE. Differs from the male in sexual characters, in its alutaceous dorsal and ventral sculpture, and by virtual absence of any indication of a sutural stria.

Holotype male and *allotype* female from Mendocino Co., California, May 29, 1922 (E. R. Leach, collector), Nos. 5837 and 5838, Museum of the California Academy of Sciences, Entomology. One male and one female *paratype*, Mendocino Co., California, July 20, 1928 (E. R. Leach); the male paratype in the Canadian National Collection, the female in the British Museum (Nat. Hist.).

Bidessus leachi is dedicated to its collector, Mr. E. R. Leach of Oakland, Calif., in appreciation of his encourage-

ment of entomology in California, especially with regard to the journal "The Pan-Pacific Entomologist". It is most closely allied to *plicipennis* (Crotch), *pictodes* Sharp, and *quadripustulatus* Fall. In Hatch's key (1929. Studies on Dytiscidae. Brooklyn Ent. Soc., Bul. 23 (5): 217) it runs to *plicipennis* if the elytra are considered to be carinate, which they are not in either species (vide supra) though they are truly so in *exiguus* (Aube). In *pictodes* and *quadripustulatus* the elytra are evenly inflated, not flat or carinate discally. *B. leachi* is distinguished from *plicipennis* by the fact that the margins of the depressed area start sensibly inward from the elytral plicae (fig. 1), not directly behind them; in addition the yellow areas are more extensive, the punctuation less dense, and the antemedian longitudinal impression at the sides above the true lateral margin, is hardly apparent. There are obvious differences in the male genitalia, compare figs. 2 and 3. My concept of *plicipennis* is based on a series of specimens of both sexes, from Bear Creek, Indian Gulch, Mariposa Co., Calif., March 2, 1940 (B. E. White); the male whose aedeagus is shown in fig. 2 was compared with a cotype of the species in the LeConte Collections by Dr. Frank N. Young in 1940.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT. I am indebted to Mr. B. A. Sugden, of Armstrong, B.C., for the drawing of the holotype.

A PRELIMINARY ANNOTATED LIST OF ICHNEUMONIDAE COLLECTED IN THE WELLINGTON DISTRICT OF VANCOUVER ISLAND, BRITISH COLUMBIA (Hymenoptera)

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Owing to the incomplete state in which revision of this family remains at present many species could be named to genus only. Determinations are by Dr. Henry K. Townes, to whom I express my thanks. Remarks included in quotation marks and

initialed H. T. are by Dr. Townes. Other notes are from my own observations. For the purpose of this preliminary list the order is alphabetical by genera.

Amblyteles ormenus Cr. (date lost).
Amblyteles subrufus Cr. 19. IV. 45.