

ever, in the following characters: Head of female faintly and sparsely punctured in front. Elytra declivity of male and female provided each side with small tubercles; suture elevated. Middle and hind tibia with four teeth near tip. Length, 4 mm. Described from two perfect males and parts of four females. From white oak, chestnut oak, and beech. Types in Collection West Va. Experiment Station.

In *punctatissimus* the head of the female is found to be deeply and coarsely punctured in front. Declivity of elytra, plain. Middle and hind tibia with only three teeth near tip.

One of the interesting facts regarding this species I have described is its apparent preference for perfectly healthy sap-wood of living trees, in which to excavate its galleries and brood-chambers. The entrance to the galleries thus excavated in a young, growing tree is, the subsequent year, covered over by a growth of wood, and as the tree continues to grow, layer after layer of wood is formed over the first until the tree reaches maturity, when the injury will be deeply buried in the heart-wood. The common occurrence of injuries thus caused throughout the wood of old oak trees is evidence that this species, or one having the same habit, has been for centuries more or less common in our forests. In fact, some very early dates of insect injuries in America may be obtained by counting the annual growths which have formed over the entrance to galleries occurring near the heart of large trees.

I have not yet met with injuries dating back to the time of Columbus, but it appears possible that brood-chambers may yet be found in some of our ancient oaks that were excavated by a *Corthylus* in the fifteenth century.

—The following, from Mr. Hopkins, was also read by the Secretary:

NOTES ON FOOD HABITS OF CORTHYLUS PUNCTATISSIMUS.

By A. D. HOPKINS.

During an excursion to the Dells of the Wisconsin with members of A. A. A. S. on August 19, 1893, I found *Corthylus punctatissimus*, adults and pupæ, frequent in their brood-chambers at base of small bushes of dogwood (*Cornus* sp.), hazel (*Corylus americana*), and sassafras, and on September 6, near Evansville, Indiana, I collected the same species in water-beech (*Carpinus caroliniana*), sugar tree (*Acer saccharinum*), and ironwood (*Ostrya virginica*).

In every case the broods were found in the base of the plant, just beneath the ground. The plants were, as a rule, either dead or dying from the injury. It would, therefore, appear that the species chooses a great variety of host-plants.

I have also found that this species does not necessarily kill the plants attacked, for I find their galleries near the heart of living sassafras bushes of considerable size, where the entrance is covered over by a number of annual growths of wood.

—Mr. Heideman laid before the Society a fine series of *Lygæus turcicus* lately collected by himself in the vicinity of Washington, D. C., and which conclusively proved that the extent of the bifid red spot on the vertex as well as the color of the claws, which may be either entirely black or red anteriorly, are quite unstable characters. In a recent paper (Ann. Soc. Ent. Belgique, 37, 1893, p. 399) Mr. A. L. Montandon had maintained that *L. turcicus* Fabr. and *L. kalmii* Stal were two good species, but distinguished the same solely by these color differences. The series exhibited rendered it quite evident that the two forms could not be separated specifically. Prof. Uhler and Mr. Distant had also arrived at the same conclusion.

Mr. Ashmead stated that his study of the coloration of these forms had led him to the same conclusion, which Prof. Riley further sustained from his own observations.

—Mr. Ashmead exhibited a large and handsome Chalcidid, which he stated was a species described more than 100 years ago by Fabricius as *Chalcis cyaneus*, but which had been lost to science until he had very recently recognized it among some Brazilian material. He stated that the species belongs to the genus *Chryseida* Spinola, and that Westwood had also described two species belonging to this genus, but had failed to recognize their true affinities, and had erroneously placed them in the subfamily Perilampinæ, instead of in the subfamily Eurytominae, in which they properly belong. He stated that the species bears some resemblance to the genus *Axima*.

Mr. Howard quite agreed with Mr. Ashmead in the reference of this genus to the subfamily Eurytominae, and stated that its intermediate position between the subfamilies Aximinae and Eurytominae furnishes a connecting link between these subfami-