

NOTES ON THE DISTRIBUTION AND BIOLOGY OF
CERTAIN BUPRESTIDAE (COLEOPTERA): PART IV¹

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ABSTRACT

Biological and distributional data are presented for species in the buprestid genera *Acmaeodera*, *Acmaeoderopsis*, *Agilus*, *Chrysobothris*, *Chrysophana*, *Mastogenius* and *Tyndaris*.

These notes are based on collections made in Arizona, California and New Mexico with the genera listed alphabetically. Unless otherwise indicated, specimens are in the collection of each collector. Abbreviations for the collections follow Arnett *et al.* (1986). The authors' and other collectors' names are abbreviated herein as: GCW, CLB, GHN (= G. H. Nelson), RKV (= R. K. Velten).

***Acmaeodera barri* Cazier.** This species utilizes the smoke tree, *Dalea spinosa* Gray, as its larval host. The adults are densely covered with greyish squamose setae and are thus afforded protective coloration when they rest on the foliage of their host or dead, sun bleached stems and branches of various perennial shrubs in the vicinity. CALIFORNIA: Imperial Co., 2 mi W Ocotillo, 19 & 22.vi.1982, CLB and RKV (CLBC, RKVC, RLWE) on *Croton* sp., *Bebbia juncea* (Benth) Greene, *Encelia farinosa* Gray ex Torr., *Hymenoclea salsola* T. & G. and *Stephanomeria* sp. (New adult host records.)

***Acmaeodera ephedrae* Barr.** This species was reared from wood of *Dalea emoryi* Gray collected at ARIZONA: Yuma Co., 12 mi E Yuma, near Jct. Fortuna Rd. and 40th St., F. M. Beer, 24.i.1984, with adults emerging 19-25.vi.1984 (GHNC). (New state record.) Larvae and adults were cut from root crowns and lower stems of *D. emoryi* at CALIFORNIA: Imperial Co., 6.5 mi W Glamis, 12.iii.1988, CLB. (New larval host records.) Adults have been collected as follows: CALIFORNIA: Riverside Co., 5 mi S Palm Desert, GHN, on *Eriogonum inflatum* Torr. & Frém.; 2.5 mi S Palm Desert, 8.vii.1958, on *Cercidium floridum* Benth; Palm Springs, 20.vii.1958, GHN, on *Hymenoclea salsola*; San Bernardino Co., Twentynine Palms, 21.v.1961, GHN, on *Palafoxia linearis* (Cav.) Lag.; Imperial Co., 14 mi E Holtville, 4.vii.1960, GHN and 5 mi W Glamis, 17.vi.1973, GCW, on *Eriogonum deserticola* Wats.; 6.5 mi W Glamis, 29, 30.v, 12.vi.1982, 16.vi.1987, 30.v.1988, CLB, on dead stems of *D. emoryi*. (New adult host records.)

***Acmaeodera pinalorum* Knull.** Described from Arizona, this species had records listed for Texas and Mexico by Westcott *et al.* (1979). Additional material has been collected in NEW MEXICO: Hidalgo Co., Granite Gap, 3, 9.vii.1983, CLB, beating *Mimosa biuncifera* Benth. (New state and adult host records.)

***Acmaeoderopsis hassayampae* (Knull).** This species was recorded as emerging from *Acacia greggii* Gray by Nelson (1965). An interesting collection was made recently at CALIFORNIA: San Diego Co., 3.5 mi E Jacumba, 18.vi.1988, CLB, beating dead stems of *Atriplex canescens* (Pursh) Nutt. The specimens were covered with a fine powder as

¹ For part III, see Coleopt. Bull. 36:218-220 (1982).

though they had just come out of their pupal cells, which would indicate another potential larval host plant.

***Agrilus impexus* Horn.** The range of this species is expanded with collections from CALIFORNIA: Riverside Co., 2,000' Santa Rosa Mt., 4.vii.1969, GCW and Whitewater Cyn., 21.iv.1979, CLB, on *Prosopis glandulosa* Torr. (New state record.)

***Agrilus ventralis* Horn.** This species has been collected in Nevada, Utah, Arizona, New Mexico and California, but always in small numbers and with little biological data. Recently the species has been taken more abundantly as follows: CALIFORNIA: Riverside Co., Whitewater Cyn., 13-15, 18.vi.1985, J. A. Fong, V. Lucksan and GCW (37 ♂♂, 21 ♀♀); 30.v. and 13.vi.1987, GHN (54 ♂♂, 21 ♀♀), on *Acacia greggii*. The females were observed running up and down small leafless stems that were less than 18 inches high. Males flew to these stems, copulated with the females before flying back to higher leafed branches.

***Chrysobothris lixa* Horn.** This species was collected at ARIZONA: Gila Co., Six Shooter Cyn., near Globe, 1.vi.1958, GHN, on *Mimosa biuncifera*; Maricopa Co., 4.2 mi SE Whitman, 25.iv.1982, CLB, RKV, sweeping dead stems of *Sphaeralcea* sp. (New adult host records.)

***Chrysophana placida* LeConte.** This widespread western species has three infrasub-specific names listed for it, *coerulans* Obenberger, *strandii* Obenberger and *cupriola* Van Dyke. These names seemingly correlate to the range of color which exists within this species. However, there are no data to suggest that correlation with other parameters, such as geographical discontinuity or divergent host usage, would indicate the need for these names to be accorded subspecies status. During June and July 1985, numerous females were observed ovipositing in the bark of a storm-damaged *Pinus ponderosa* Laws. at CALIFORNIA: Mt. Pinos, Kern Co. (GCW). A series of 120 was collected; the elytral ground color varied from bronze to a deep blue violet. The majority (85%) were greenish blue, 10% were deep blue violet and 5% were bronze; of these, 20% are unicolored and 80% have a stripe on each elytron which varies from light gold to deep red. With the entire range of color existing within one population, there does not seem to be any reason to consider these names except for cataloging purposes.

***Mastogenius puncticollis* Schaeffer.** This diminutive species was described from a unique specimen labelled simply 'Huachucha Mountains, Arizona' (Schaeffer 1918). It appears to be exceedingly rare in collections; an additional specimen was compared recently to the type (USNM) and has the following data: ARIZONA: Cochise Co., Huachucha Mts., Copper Cyn., 26.vii.1983, CLB, beating *Quercus* sp. (New adult host record.)

***Tyndaris (Barberia) barberi* Skinner.** At the time of the description of *Tyndaris knulli* (Barr) (1972) compared these two species and concluded that *barberi* was restricted in distribution to central Arizona, while *knulli* had a much broader range in southern Nevada, southeastern California, western Arizona and northern Baja California. A single specimen from CALIFORNIA: Riverside Co., Cottonwood Springs, Joshua Tree Nat. Mon., 5.viii.1965, R. & A. R. Hardy (CLBC) keys to *barberi* in Barr's (1972) work and matches the diagnostic characteristics given, specifically by the presence of distinct pronotal lateral carinae. (New state record.)

***Tyndaris (Tucsonia) tucsoni* (Knoll).** NEW MEXICO: Hidalgo Co., 18 mi N Rodeo, Granite Gap, 10.vii.1960, 5.vii.1977, GHN, on *Acacia constricta* Benth; 4, 12.vii.1982, CLB and R. H. Hasegawa; 3, 9.vii.1983, CLB and RKV, beating dead branches of *A. constricta* and *Mimosa biuncifera* (CLBC, RHHC, RKVC, RLWE). (New state and adult host records.)

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