

A NEW GENUS AND SPECIES OF AUSTRALIAN PROCTOTRYPIDAE.

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(One Text-figure.)

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The family *Proctotrypidae* is not rich in genera; six are recognized in Kieffer's monograph (Das Tierreich, Berlin, 1914), but it is doubtful whether *Phaenoserphus* Kieffer and *Cryptoserphus* Kieffer are sufficiently distinct from *Proctotrypes* Latreille (= *Serphus* Schrank) to warrant generic rank. The Australian *Acanthoserphus* Dodd, 1915, has since been added to the number of genera.

Nine species in this small family have been described from Australia. Hence, the recognition of a new genus and species is a matter for comment; due credit should be given to the discoverer of this interesting form, Mr. F. Erasmus Wilson. The new insect is Braconid-like in general appearance, and possesses outstanding characters, particularly in regard to the development of the wing venation.

AUSTROSERPHUS, new genus.

♀, ♂.—Head from dorsal aspect transverse; from frontal aspect as long as its greatest width, sub-triangular; eyes prominent, bare; ocelli rather close together in centre of vertex; immediately above the antennal insertions the frons is produced in the form of a broadly convex transverse lamina, its margin lightly carinate, its surface broadly depressed medially; a median carina separates the antennal insertions and meets the frontal lamina; maxillary palpi very long, 5-jointed, the first joint short; labial palpi short, 3-jointed; mandibles not large, the one edentate, its tooth broadly curved, the other bidentate with a broadly curved inner and small outer tooth. Antennae 13-jointed in both sexes; scape stout, its inner dorsal edge carinate, its dorsal surface produced forward in a triangular acuminate process which covers the pedicel and base of the first flagellar joint; pedicel small; flagellar joints cylindrical, the basal ones long. Pronotum short, its anterior border margined, its latero-anterior angles sub-acuminate; scutum long, the parapsidal furrows complete and almost meeting posteriorly; scutellum large, at base with a large transverse fovea sub-divided into five smaller foveae by longitudinal carinae, posteriorly with a row of foveae; metanotum rather strongly depressed on either side of the sub-quadrate median area, its posterior margin with four short teeth at wide intervals which correspond to similar teeth on the anterior margin of the propodeum; propodeum distinctly separated from the metanotum, on one plane, partially rugose. Forewings ample; with very complete venation; subcostal vein well separated from the costa; stigma slender, twice as long as wide; radial vein rather short, at right angles to the stigma; radial cell closed, large, longer than the stigma; first cubital vein complete and straight to the distal wing margin; vein $Cu_2 + 1A$ rather near the posterior margin which it joins beyond the middle; veins M_{1+2} and M_{3+4} almost join proximately, the former running obliquely to the anterior margin, the latter running straight to the centre of the distal margin; two medio-cubital and two inter-cubital veins are present. Hindwings with a costal vein only, except for

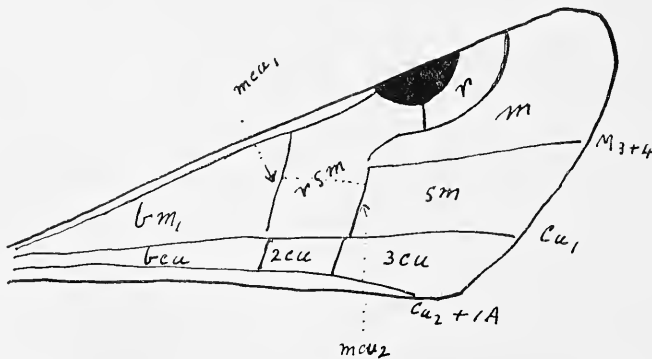
a false cross-vein which extends for two-thirds the width from the posterior margin. Legs normal; posterior coxae, femora, and tibiae rather slender, the tibiae with two short stout apical spurs; tarsal claws strongly curved, simple. Abdominal petiole in the female stout, as wide as long; in the male very long and slender, fully one-half as long as body of abdomen. Body of abdomen somewhat compressed dorso-ventrally; from lateral aspect abruptly declivous apically in the male; composed of four segments in the female, five in the male, of which segment 2 (first body segment) occupies more than one-half the surface; in the female produced in a very slender, cylindrical, straight oviduct, which is longer than the main abdomen.

Genotype, *A. albofasciatus*, new species.

A fine genus, distinguished by the very complete venation, the produced acuminate scape, and the long abdominal petiole in the male. *Acanthoserphus* Dodd possesses the produced scape and the complete venation except that M_{3+4} and Cu_1 are false and not true veins, but the abdominal petiole is short in both sexes, the pronotal angles are toothed or spined, and the metanotum bears a long spine.

AUSTROSERPHUS ALBOFASCIATUS, n. sp.

♀.—Length, to apex of oviduct, 8.50 mm.; to base of oviduct, 5.75 mm. Shining black, including the antennae and legs, except as follows: ninth and tenth antennal joints, basal third of intermediate and posterior tibiae, and third and fourth joints of intermediate and posterior tarsi, silvery-white; similar portions of the anterior tibiae and tarsi, and the palpi, whitish; oviduct deep ferruginous.



Forewing of *Austroserphus albofasciatus* Dodd.

Antennae not much shorter than the body; funicle 1 as long as the produced scape, 2-10 gradually shortening, 10 a little more than one-half as long as 1; apical joint almost as long as 1, very broadly rounded at apex. Body impunctate, shining, except the propodeum and metapleurae; with a scattered fine pubescence, the face below the antennal insertion densely shortly pubescent. Scutum with a fine median carina on posterior half; propodeum smooth for basal third and with smooth areas, except for fine surface sculpture, on either side of the median line posteriorly, the rest punctate to rugose-punctate; posterior two-thirds of propodeum with strong lateral carinae which are obliquely angled at one-half their length, and with two or three median carinae, the lateral margins with

fine long hairs, the posterior margin convex and carinate; metapleurae densely rugose-punctate and with dense silvery pubescence. Forewings smoky, the venation black. Abdominal petiole flat dorsally and margined by gentle carinae, its sides with a few irregular striae or carinae and with carinate ventral margins.

♂.—Length, 5.50 mm. Agreeing in colour and general characters with the female. Funicle 1 a little longer than the scape; apical joint three-fourths as long as funicle 1, one-half longer than the penultimate, pointed at apex. Abdominal petiole slender, four times as long as wide; its dorsal surface with two parallel carinae or striae which diverge at base and apex, the lateral surface with a few strong irregular longitudinal striae or carinae.

Habitat.—Victoria: Beech Forest, three females, three males in January; Millgrove, one male in November; all collected by F. E. Wilson.

Holotype and allotype in the collection of Mr. F. E. Wilson; paratypes in the collections of the Queensland Museum, F. E. Wilson, and the author.
