A NEW GENUS AND SPECIES OF AUSTRALIAN PROCTOTRYPIDAE.

By Alan P. Dodd.

(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.

9, d.-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 subacuminate; 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, - 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

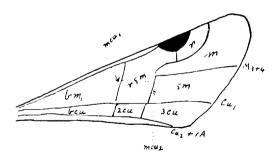
a false cross-vein which extends for two-thirds the width from the posterior margin. Legs normal; posterior coxae, femora, and tibiae rather slender, the tibiae with two short stout apical spurs; tarsal claws strongly curved, simple. Abdominal petiole in the female stout, as wide as long; in the male 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_{3-1} 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. sd.

Q.—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 dand 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 albojasciatus 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.

of.—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.