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BRITISH ENTOMOLOGY;

BEING

ILLUSTRATIONS AND DESCRIPTIONS

OF

THE GENERA OF INSECTS

FOUND IN

GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND:

CONTAINING

COLOURED FIGURES FROM NATURE

OF THE MOST RARE AND BEAUTIFUL SPECIES,

AND IN MANY INSTANCES

OF THE PLANTS UPON WHICH THEY ARE FOUND.

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Des. by J. Curtis London Oct. 1. 1824

CIMBEX DECEM-MACULATA.

ORDER Hymenoptera. FAM. Tenthredinidæ *Lat., Leach.*

Type of the Genus *Tenthredo europæa Leach.*

CIMBEX *Oliv., Fab., Lat., Leach.* *Tenthredo Linn., Jur.*

Antennæ inserted between the eyes, clavate, 6-jointed, first joint cup-shaped, second very short, third very long, fourth and fifth clavate-truncate, sixth oblong, club-shaped, with a transverse suture. (1.)

Labrum small, oblong, rounded at the apex, hairy. (2.)

Mandibles exerted, unequal, robust, acute, with one or two irregular teeth on the inside. (3.)

Maxillæ membranaceous at the apex, with a large hairy lobe near the base of the palpi, extending towards the apex.

Palpi irregular, extending a little beyond the maxillæ, 6-jointed, third joint the longest, fourth somewhat clavate, sixth small, ovate. (4.)

Mentum oblong, dilated anteriorly (5. a.): *Palpi* scarcely longer than the lip, 4-jointed, gradually increasing in size to the third joint, terminal joint small (b.): *Lip* membranaceous, with a few hairs above, three-lobed, the centre one narrow, external lobes somewhat hemispherical. (c.)

Clypeus broad, emarginate. *Ocelli* 3. *Abdomen* sessile, cylindrical in the males, somewhat ovate in the females, first segment especially of the males deeply emarginate above. *Oviduct* not exerted, composed of two lamellæ, which are serrated. *Superior wings* with 2 marginal and 3 submarginal cells. *Thighs* 4 posterior unarmed, very thick in the males. *Tibiæ* terminated by syphon-formed spurs, obtuse at the apex. *Tarsi* with the penultimate joint a little shorter than the antepenultimate, four first joints with membranaceous appendages (8. a fore leg); the basal joint of the 4 posterior tarsi of the males produced into a spine beneath. (8. a.)

Larva with membranaceous feet.

DECEM-MACULATA *Leach Zool. Mis. v. 3. p. 106. n. 7. T. lutea Linn. ?*
En. Su. 1534.

Body obscurely villose: black, the abdomen tinged with violet, the third and seventh joints having a pale greenish yellow spot on each side; the 3 intermediate joints of the same colour interrupted by blackish violet down the centre. *Abdominal membrane* pale yellow. *Antennæ* and *tarsi* testaceous. *Wings* pale fulvous: costa, 2 cells near the stigma and posterior margin ferruginous.

In the Cabinet of the British Museum.

DR. LEACH has described in the Zoological Miscellany (above referred to) eleven species of this fine Genus, seven of which are

ascertained to be inhabitants of Great Britain ; the unique specimen figured, which is a female, was taken in the month of July at Windsor several years since by Mr. Griesbach, and presented to the British Museum by Dr. Leach.

The larvæ of this Genus greatly resemble those of the *Lepidoptera*, except that they have twenty-two feet ; they have also two lateral apertures from which they are able to spirt a fluid, for what purpose we can only conjecture, probably it may be sufficiently fetid or noxious to protect them against the attacks of the destructive *Ichneumonidæ*. When the larvæ are full grown, they form for themselves an oblong hard case, which is generally attached to a twig or small branch of the tree they fed upon, within which they change to an incomplete pupa.

The plant figured is *Holcus mollis* (Creeping Soft Grass).