A NEW SPECIES OF ADELINA DEJEAN FROM THE BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS (COLEOPTERA: TENEBRIONIDAE: ULOMINI)

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Abstract.—Adelina mystax, new species, is described from Anegada, British Virgin Islands. The remarkable structure of the male clypeus and the aedeagus are illustrated.

Spilman (1973) presented convincing evidence that Adelina Dejean is the valid name for a genus of cucujid-like tenebrionids usually listed under the generic name Doliema Pascoe.

Ardoin (1977) apparently missed Spilman’s note, since he described seven new species of the genus, all under the name Doliema. We have used Ardoin’s key to the males of American species (he did not prepare keys for the females) and find them, along with the illustrations, very usable.

We were surprised, therefore, to find the following new species among Adelina collected by the junior author in the Virgin Islands. We wish to describe it at this time to make the name available for inclusion in a subsequent publication on the Virgin Island Tenebrionidae.

Adelina mystax Triplehorn and Ivie, NEW SPECIES


Description of holotype, male.—Body elongate, parallel-sided, flattened, uniformly light reddish brown, integument translucent. Head with clypeus scarcely delimited from frons except laterally; epistomal margin broadly truncate and with a narrow, tapering, hornlike process arising from each side of clypeus at lateral margin, processes strongly divergent, recurved and directed slightly caudad (Fig. 1); genae above antennal insertions convex and drawn out into acute, toothlike reflexed projections; no toothlike projections beneath the dorsal projections; surface of head rather coarsely and densely punctated between eyes; vertex very minutely punctate; antenna relatively short, extending caudad only about ⅓ length of elytra. Pronotum strongly transverse, more than twice as broad as long, sides strongly arcuate and slightly sinuate in basal ½; apical margin broadly and deeply emarginate, basal margin bisinuate (straight along anterior margin of scutellum), apical angles obtusely rounded, basal angles almost rectangular; surface finely and sparsely punctate on disc, punctures much coarser laterally, a deep, pigmented fovea on each side near base. Prohypepomeron finely colliculate, coarsely, nearly confluent punctate except laterad of procoxae; a series of curved parallel wrinkles
Adelina mystax. 1, Head of male, lateral view. 2, Aedeagus, ventral view.

separating the 2 areas. Tarsi with claws each bearing a blunt tooth midway to tip. Elytra with disc flattened; interneurs shallowly impressed, coarsely punctured; intervals very finely punctate; epipleura concave, extending to base of last visible sternite. Abdominal sternites with distinct depressions laterally, 4th tergite with a near pit, 5th with transverse depression extending across anterior margin, delimiting a distinct bulge immediately behind, bounded posteriorly by a fine margination. Sternites 1 through 3 long, 4th and 5th shorter and together subequal to 2nd. Fifth sternite evenly rounded behind. Aedeagus as in Fig. 2.

Measurements.—Length: 4.8 mm; width 1.9 mm.

Description of allotype female.—Similar to holotype except lacking hornlike processes on clypeus, and genae, while convex above antennal insertions, are not acute apically. Clypeus more coarsely and densely punctate and antenna noticeably shorter.

Measurements.—length: 4.6 mm, width 1.8 mm.

Paratypes.—3 ♂, same data as holotype, two in The Ohio State University Collection of Insects and Spiders, one in the collection of the junior author.

Remarks.—Variation in the secondary sexual characters is considerable. One paratype exhibits a reduction of the epistomal horns, which arise only as small teeth, with the genal projections less acute; another has the horns completely absent. This appears analogous to the major/minor-male situation found in some scarabaeids and other horned beetles.

The allotype differs from the hornless male in the more rounded epistomal margin that joins the genae at an obtuse angle, rather than the square juncture in the male, and by the rounded, obtuse genal projection over the antennal base.

Diagnosis.—The form of the clypeal horns on the major male will distinguish this species from all other described species of Adelina. The other forms (minor males and females) can be distinguished from the sympatric A. pici (Ardoin) by
that species' flat, narrowly rounded fifth sternite, its lack of lateral depressions on the first sternite, the simple tarsal claws, and the non-wrinkled prohypomeron.

Etymology.—The name is derived from the Greek (a mustache) in reference to the structures of the clypeus in the major male, which bear a strong resemblance to a waxed mustache.

Biology.—The type-locality is on the xeric limestone plain between the Settlement and the airport. The type-series was found in the company of *A. pici* (Ardoin) beneath loose bark of a large (ca. 30 cm diameter) dead limb on a living tree of unknown specific identity, known locally as “logwood.”

**LITERATURE CITED**
