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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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by L. Curtis. vol. 1. p. 1

CINETUS DORSIGER.

ORDER Hymenoptera. FAM. Proctotrupidæ.

*Type of the Genus, Cinetus gracilipes Curt.*CINETUS *Jur., Curt. Guide, Gen. 573.*

Antennæ approximating, as long as the body, filiform, pubescent and 14-jointed in the males, basal joint a little thickened in the middle, not longer than the 3rd; 2nd globose, the remainder slightly decreasing in length; the 3rd joint is emarginate outside at the base, the apical joint subconical (1): 15-jointed in the females.

Labrum undiscovered.

Mandibles short, one trigonate, rounded at the apex, with a slight protuberance on the inside, the other bifid at the apex, emarginate on the inside at the base, forming a strong tooth (3).

Maxillæ with the base broad, terminated by a large rounded lobe, produced on the outside, ciliated and bristly at the margin.

Palpi very long, pubescent, pilose and 6-jointed, basal joint minute, 2nd longer, 3 following of equal length and a little longer, the 3rd slender, 4th and 5th dilated, 6th nearly twice as long as the 5th and slender (4).

Mentum small obconic. *Lip* short and fleshy. *Palpi* rather long, pubescent and triarticulate, 1st and 2nd joints of equal length, subclavate, 3rd longer, clavate ovate and pilose (5).

Head subglobose, slightly produced in front at the insertion of the antennæ. Eyes lateral and suboval. Ocelli rather large, 3 in triangle on the crown of the head. Thorax gibbous, obovate; scutellum rather large, the angles of the postscutellum often acuminate. Wings generally ample and pubescent, with a subcostal nervure, a furcate longitudinal nervure below, with a transverse one towards the base, the Stigma open and forming a trigonate cell producing a nervure at the lower angle (9). Abdomen with the basal joint forming a robust peduncle, 2nd joint covering the whole body, excepting the apex which is composed of 6 or 7 rings. Coxæ long. Thighs short and incrassated. Tibiæ spurred, very slender at the base and robust at the apex, especially the anterior, which are furnished with a curved and bifid spine at the apex. Tarsi long and 5-jointed, basal joint long curved and pectinated on the inside at the base in the anterior pair, terminal joint not longer than the 2nd. Claws acute. Pulvilli long.

DORSIGER *Haliday's MSS.*

Ochreous shining, slightly pubescent: antennæ brown, base ochreous: eyes, margins of the ocelli and disc of the thorax and scutellum black: abdomen pellucid, dirty white, excepting towards the apex: wings iridescent, the nervures brown.

In the Cabinet of Mr. Haliday.

BELYTA and *Cinetus* are so much connected, and the females are so similar, that until we have the sexes of the different species it will be difficult to determine whether the genera ought to be separated or united. Jurine distinguishes *Cinetus* by the triangular costal cell, and the antennæ of the males are 14-jointed, those of the females 15-jointed. Since the plate was engraved I have availed myself of Mr. Haliday's papers, and I have scarcely any doubt that the fig. 1 a, belongs to Jurine's genus *Belyta*; I have therefore not incorporated the characters of this sex in the generic description, but I strongly suspect some of the females have antennæ very similar to the figure above alluded to.

The following species have been already detected in Britain, although only one has ever been recorded, except in the Guide, and there is no figure of the genus, I believe, in any work, British or foreign.

1. *C. Rubecula* Hal.—*Curt. Guide, Gen.* 573. 1.
2. *C. bicornis* Ste.
- 2^b. *C. armatus* Hal. Male $1\frac{2}{3}$ line long; black, shining and slightly pilose, tip of the 1st and base of the 2nd joint of antennæ castaneous, angles of postscutellum very acuminate. Wings fuscous, nervures piceous. Legs ferruginous, base of coxæ, middle of thighs and of 4 anterior tibiæ and tarsi at the apex piceous.
3. *C. gracilis* Curt. $1\frac{1}{3}$ line long: similar to No. 2^b but more slender; the 3rd joint of antennæ is strongly sinuated, the base of abdomen castaneous, the legs are entirely ochreous and the open stigma is elongated. June, Bexley, Kent.
4. *C. gracilipes* Curt. $2\frac{1}{4}$ lines long: black shining; peduncle slender, as long as the abdomen: wings slightly yellow, nervures ochreous, antennæ and legs ferruginous ochre, the former fuscous at the apex, posterior thighs castaneous.
5. *C. fuliginosus* Curt. $1\frac{1}{3}$ line long: similar to No. 4; the abdomen much narrower, and oval. Wings dusky, nervures piceous.
6. *C. Cantianus* Curt. 1 line long: black, shining: wings transparent, the open stigma elongated: legs ferruginous brown, antennæ castaneous at the base, submoniliform in the female.
7. *C. Vigil* Hal.
8. *C. maurus* Hal.
9. *C. Numida* Hal.
10. *C. nigripennis* Hal. April, Holywood.
12. *C. ruficornis* Curt. Female $1\frac{1}{2}$ line long: robust, black and shining, angles of postscutellum produced; peduncle short and thick: wings yellow, the open stigma elongated, nervures piceous: antennæ and legs rufous ochre, the former moniliform.
13. *C. maculatus* Hal.
14. *C. dorsiger* Hal.—*Brit. Ent. pl.* 380. The male figured was taken on an oak by A. H. Haliday, Esq. in the county of Galway, Ireland.
17. *C. Cursor* Curt. Female. Similar to No. 12. in size and colour, but having very short and imperfect wings; the base and tip of the abdomen are ferruginous.
18. *C. Mirmillo* Hal.
19. *C. dryinoides* Hal.
20. *C. astutus* Hal.

No. 11. (bicolor *Jur.*) of the Guide, and probably 14, 15, and 16, ought to be arranged under BELYTA.

The Plant is *Cnicus pratensis* (Meadow Plume-thistle.)