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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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Tab. by J. Curtis. Vol. 1. 1.

CHÆNON ANCEPS.

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

Type of the Genus, Chænon Anceps, Hal.

CHÆNON *Hal., MSS., Curt.*

Antennæ inserted in the middle of the face, approximating, as long as the body, nearly filiform, pubescent, composed of numerous subquadrate joints, basal joint the most robust subovate-truncate, 2nd very short, 3rd the longest (1*a), apical joint obovate (b).

Labrum small sublunulate and ciliated (2).

Mandibles remote, lateral divaricating not crossing subquadrate, terminated by 4 unequal teeth (1* & 3).

Maxillæ very small, terminated by a suborbicular and pilose lobe, with a longer one inside. *Palpi* very long, pubescent and pilose, 6-jointed, 1st and 2nd joints short, equal in size, 3rd the most robust, the remainder slender, the 4th the longest, 5th and 6th of equal length (4).

Mentum somewhat pear-shaped-truncate. *Palpi* long, rather robust, and pilose, 4-jointed, the 2nd joint a little the longest and stoutest, terminal one elongate-conic. *Lip* hollow, rounded, scarcely broader than the mentum (5).

Head *globose quadrate, face convex.* Eyes *remote, lateral.* Ocelli 3, large, forming a triangle on the crown of the head (1* front view of the head). Thorax *scarcely broader than the head, very much elongated.* Postscutellum *large semiorbicular.* Abdomen *elongate-ovate narrowed at the base; very much compressed beyond the middle in the female type.* Ovipositor *scarcely visible.* Wings *rather long and pubescent; superior with 1 marginal, 2 submarginal and 2 discoidal cells.* Stigma *slightly elongated.* Inferior wings *with several nervures.* Legs, *posterior the longest.* Tibiæ *spurred.* Tarsi 5-jointed, *basal joint the longest, 4th the shortest.* Claws *short.* Pulvilli *large (8, a fore leg).*

ANCEPS *Hal. MSS.*

Black shining. Mandibles castaneous, black at the extremity. Postpectus rugose, pilose, with a groove down the middle. Abdomen ochreous, with an abbreviated black mark at the base on the back, where it is deeply and coarsely furrowed; in the female the superior edge is black towards the apex. Wings iridescent with a yellow tinge. Stigma and nervures brown. Legs ferruginous ochre. Tarsi and tips of hinder tibiæ fuscous; in the female the hinder thighs excepting the base, the tibiæ and tarsi are blackish.

Obs. The coloured Insect is a female, and fig. 6. the abdomen in profile: fig. 7. is the upper side of the male abdomen.

In the Cabinets of Mr. Haliday and the Author.

SINCE the genus *Alysia* was illustrated, the present group has been discovered by Mr. Haliday, to whose liberality I am indebted for the species I possess; and Mr. F. Walker has favoured me with his collection, to enable me to arrange and give slight characters of the whole.

The species have been taken by the former gentleman in Ireland, from July to September, in moist meadows, and by the latter near Southgate as early as the end of June. The length of the antennæ is probably only a sexual character, and I suspect the species depart considerably from the type, in the form of the female abdomen, and one is destitute of wings.

1. *C. anceps* Curt. Brit. Ent. pl. 289. July, amongst long grass in drains.
2. *C. gracilis* Hal.—Slender, black; legs testaceous, 4 posterior thighs piceous, tarsi fuscous. Nearly as large as No. 1.
3. *C. elegans* Hal.—Probably a small var. of No. 2.
4. *C. viduus* Hal.—Black, abdomen piceous, anterior thighs beneath and tips of coxæ ochreous.
5. *C. obscurus* Curt.—Similar to No. 4. but smaller: legs ochreous, 4 posterior thighs and tibiæ, except at the base, piceous, tarsi fuscous.
6. *C. similis* Curt.—Smaller; the legs brighter.
7. *C. affinis* Hal.—As large, and more robust, than No. 2: anterior thighs and tibiæ ochreous.
8. *C. fuliginosus* Curt.—Like No. 7, with a rufous spot on the body; the anterior thighs and tibiæ, and the coxæ and tibiæ of intermediate legs, ochreous.
9. *C. cingulatus* Hal.—As small as No. 6: abdomen pale piceous, ochreous in the centre, legs ochreous, thighs and apex of tibiæ of 4 posterior and tarsi, fuscous.
10. *C. rufinotatus* Curt.—More robust, the black and ochre more bright; antennæ, excepting the basal joint, ochreous.
11. *C. brevicornis* Hal.—Antennæ short, ochreous at the base: abdomen piceous, ochreous in the centre: legs bright ochre, apex of 4 posterior thighs, tips of hinder, tibiæ, and tarsi piceous.
12. *C. apterus* Curt.—The smallest. Wings none. Testaceous; head, extremity of antennæ, apex of abdomen, and tips of tarsi, blackish.

The plant is *Lythrum Salicaria* (Purple-spiked Willow-herb).