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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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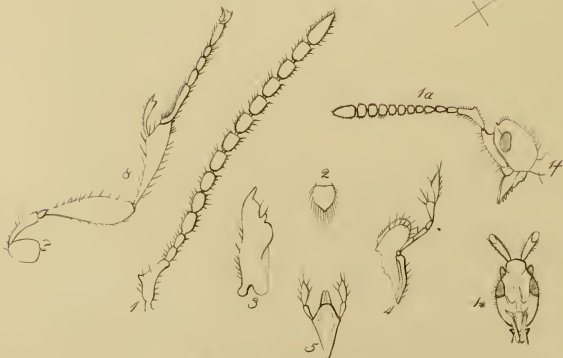


Fig. by J. Curtis Jun. 1. 1831

GALESUS FUSCIPENNIS.

ORD. Hymenoptera. FAM. Proctotrupidæ *Curt.* Oxyuri *Lat.*

Type of the Genus, Psilus cornutus Panz.

GALESUS *Hal. MSS., Curtis.*—*Psilus Panz., Jur.*—*Diapria Lat.*

Antennæ inserted on the edge of a large cup formed by the projection of the face, very pubescent and pilose, as long as the body, geniculated, filiform in the male and 14-jointed, basal joint the longest curved and angulated on the inside, 2d and 3d joints the shortest and slenderest, the remainder robust and oblong, the terminal joint long and conical (1): shorter clavate and 12-jointed in the female, the 2d and 3d joints being rather longer than the following, suboval, 4th and 5th ovate, the following moniliform, increasing in size to the terminal joint, which is long and conical (1 a).

Labrum? subcordate, ciliated with long hairs (2).

Mandibles approximating, rostriform, porrected, long and slightly pilose, bent and pointed at the apex, the inside very much sinuated, with a tooth towards the apex (3).

Maxillæ externally corneous, terminated by 2 thin semioval plates, lying close together, one producing a series of bristles, the other ciliated. *Palpi* rather long and slender, attached apparently to a minute scape, 5-jointed, 1st and 2nd joints nearly of equal length, 3d short oblong, 4th and 5th dilated, the former at the apex, the latter is the longest and truncated obliquely (4).

Mentum lozenge-shaped, anterior margin rounded, beyond which extends a fleshy *Labium*. *Palpi* biarticulate, basal joint slender and clavate, 2d rather longer, robust, pilose (5).

Trophi deflexed (1†) forming a rostrum beneath the Head which is oval, the crown elevated in front with a short horn on each side the face sloping inward to the clypeus. Eyes lateral small and oval. Ocelli 3, placed on the fore part of the crown of the head, very large (1*, underside of the head of a female, 1† the same in profile). Neck distinct. Thorax broader than the head, elongate-ovate, the sutures very strongly marked: *squamulæ* very large and covering the base of the superior wings. Scutellum emarginate at the apex the angles acute. Petiolus robust and fluted. Abdomen elongate-ovate rather conical at the apex in the female, basal joint with a deep channel at the base and covering the whole body, excepting the apex. Wings iridescent, pubescent and ciliated, superior very large, narrow at the base, rounded at the apex, with a short subcostal nervure, a transverse curved callous nervure near the base and several nervures indicated only, and no cells: inferior wings small and narrow. Legs rather short and slender: *coxæ* long: thighs short and incrassated: *tibiæ*, anterior very slender at the base and robust at the apex, producing a long curved and acute spine, dilated below the apex: *tarsi* 5-jointed, basal joint long, curved at the base and beautifully pectinated in the anterior pair, terminal joint shorter than the basal one: claws acute: *pulvilli* membranous (8, a fore leg).

FUSCIPENNIS *Curtis's Guide, Gen. 570, No. 1.*

In the Cabinets of Mr. Walker and the Author.

GALESUS is characterized by the peculiar form of the antennæ, and by the remarkable head and distinct petiole; and it may be observed that the Psili of Jurine, which are the Diapriæ of Latreille, vary from our genus in having the third joint of the antennæ long.

In dissecting this insect, the curious scales which cover the base of the superior wings attracted my notice; they are thin and moveable, and may be used in closing the large wings, which for want of strong nervures, probably require their assistance. The dilated spine at the apex of the anterior tibiæ, and the beautiful pectinated basal joint at the tarsi, although common in the Hymenoptera, are seldom more developed. I have now little doubt that they are for the purpose of cleaning the antennæ; few insects are without a spine to the anterior tibiæ, and the basal joint of their tarsi is generally hollowed out inside, if it be not always pectinated in this order.

Three species only have been discovered; Mr. Haliday thinks the third may be a small variety of the second.

1. *G. fuscipennis* Curtis Brit. Ent. pl. 341. male.

Smooth, black and shining, partially covered with yellowish pubescence: antennæ as long as the wings in the male, with the fourth and following joints elongated: eyes castaneous: ocelli pale: scutellum rugose: petiole with five very elevated longitudinal lines: wings pale, fuscous, yellowish towards the base, superior, with two white, and two or three brownish longitudinal lines on each; a callous spot below the apex of the subcostal nervure, and the curved one near the base, yellowish brown: base of thighs, tibiæ, and tarsi castaneous, the hinder tibiæ with a dark spot below the middle and the tips of the tarsi black.

The male figured I took in Norfolk many years since, and Mr. F. Walker finds it amongst grass in woods near Southgate, in June and July.

2. *G. cornutus* Panz. 83. 11. female.

Antennæ shorter than the wings in the male, having the fourth and following joints subovate, excepting the apical one (f. 1.): wings very pale, yellowish-fuscous: petiole with five faint elevated lines: base and tips of the thighs castaneous, all the tibiæ blackish in the middle, the hinder pair and the tarsi castaneous only at the base.

Males taken in February and April, in shady places; and females beginning of July, on the sea-shore at Holywood, by Mr. Haliday.

3. *G. claviger* Hal. MSS. Curtis's Guide, No. 3.

Length three quarters of a line and one and a quarter. Male undiscovered: females very similar to the last, with which they were taken by Mr. Haliday.

The plant is *Pinguicula lusitanica* (Pale Butterwort), from Boscomb Chine, Hants, communicated by the Honourable C. A. Harris.