

6  
979  
3  
nt.  
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.

BY JOHN CURTIS, F.L.S.

HONORARY MEMBER OF THE ASHMOLEAN SOCIETY OF OXFORD,  
OF THE IMPERIAL AND ROYAL ACADEMY OF FLORENCE,  
OF THE ACADEMY OF NATURAL SCIENCES OF PHILADELPHIA, ETC.

VOL. III.

DERMAPTERA. DICTYOPTERA.  
ORTHOPTERA. STREPSIPTERA.  
HYMENOPTERA, PART I.

LONDON:

PRINTED FOR THE AUTHOR,

AND SOLD BY

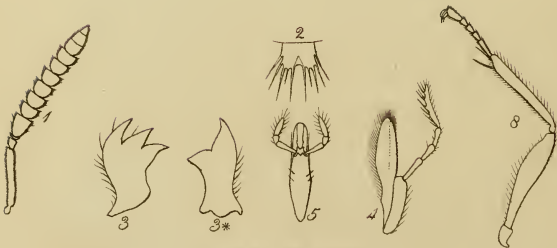
F. ELLIS AND CO., 92 GREAT RUSSELL STREET, BLOOMSBURY;

SIMPKIN AND MARSHALL, STATIONERS' COURT; AND

J. B. BAILLIERE, 219 REGENT STREET.

1823—1840.





*Publ. by J. Curtis Nov. 1. 1827*

## PERILAMPUS PALLIPES.

ORDER Hymenoptera. FAM. Cynipsidæ Lat., Leach.

Type of the Genus Cynips Italica Fab.

PERILAMPUS Lat.—Diplolepis Fab., Panz.—Chalcis Jur., Panz.—  
Cynips Fab., Oliv., Lat.

*Antennæ* alike in both sexes, approximating, inserted in the middle of the face, geniculated, pubescent, 13-jointed; basal joint long slender, 2nd small cup-shaped, 3rd like a ring, the remainder forming a long robust, subfusiform mass, the first joint the longest, the 6 following cup-shaped, the 3 last sometimes obscure, the apical one minute conical (fig. 1).

*Labrum* concealed beneath the clypeus, very minute, quadrate, emarginate producing spines terminated by bristles (2).

*Mandibles* large concave, one being trifid (3), the other bifid (3\*).

*Maxillæ* long, terminated by a single concave lobe, coriaceous and hairy externally, membranous and ciliated internally. *Palpi* long, filiform, basal joint longer than the 2nd or 3rd, which are of equal length, terminal joint the longest, subfusiform, slightly bent, pilose, sinuated internally (4).

*Mentum* elongated, conical posteriorly. *Lip* rather long concave, edges conniving. *Palpi* long, 3-jointed, basal joint the longest, clavate, 2nd minute, 3rd elongate conic, pilose (5).

*Clypeus* distinct. Head short, vertical, as broad as the thorax: face orbicular, concave above to receive the basal joint of the antennæ. Eyes rather small lateral. Ocelli 3, in a curved line. Thorax transverse cylindrical, prothorax very short. Scutellum large more or less triangular, projecting over the Abdomen which is short depressed, rhomboidal or triangular. Ovipositor concealed. Wings as long as the abdomen, pubescent, transparent, superior with a nervure running from the base, parallel to the costa as far as the middle, where it extends a short space along that margin, and is furcate at the extremity; inferior small, sublanceolate, with a nervure parallel to the costa, extending only half their length. Legs slender. Thighs slightly clavate, nearly straight. Tibiæ simple terminated by 2 spines. Tarsi 5-jointed, basal joint a little the longest, terminal incrassated. Claws and Pulvilli distinct (8, a fore leg.)

## PALLIPES Nob.

*Female*. Head minutely punctured, æneous; face black; eyes cinereous; antennæ ferruginous, 1st and 2nd joints black. Thorax and scutellum dull brassy green, regularly reticulated. Abdomen quadrangular, chalybeous, slightly pubescent. Wings scarcely stained with yellow, iridescent, nervures fuscous. Legs violaceous, apex of thighs and a portion of the apex of the anterior tibiæ, especially on the inside ochraceous, tarsi of the same colour; pulvilli black.

*Male* smaller, abdomen obovate or conic, obtuse.

In the Cabinets of Mr. Stephens and Mr. Bainbridge.

*PERILAMPUS*, a genus containing several European species, was separated from *Cynips* and established by Latreille in his *Genera Crustaceorum*. The wings of the *Cynipsidæ* seldom furnish generic characters; and in many other tribes of *Hymenoptera*, their structure is not available for separating small groups, they consequently become rather characteristic of families or of tribes; and this led Jurine (whose system was built upon their conformation) into the error of uniting the Fabrician genera of *Ichneumonidæ*, and considering that vast group as a genus. The same system compelled him to sink many excellent genera amongst the bees, and prevented him from admitting of any material division in the *Cynipsidæ* or *Diplolepidæ*. The antennæ however, when carefully examined, will supply the deficiency by furnishing the best generic characters for general use; for although we believe that the trophi are of the first importance, it is not possible for the student to examine those parts in every specimen; and characters obtained from more convenient parts will enable him to decide upon affinities after a genus is firmly established by dissection. At present we shall not enter into the merits of our genus: it may not be amiss, however, to remark, that the singular manner in which the labrum is produced into spines, and the same disposition in the terminal joint of the maxillary palpi, have not been before noticed.

The metallic hue of the bodies render the *Perilampi* striking and beautiful objects, although inferior in splendour to their neighbours. They are parasitic, feeding in the larva state upon caterpillars, and forming an oval cocoon, which Reaumur represents suspended from a branch by a thread.

The species figured not agreeing with Fabricius's description of *Cynips ruficornis*, which is said to have a black head and thorax, nor with Panzer's *Chalcis violacea*, which has the 4 anterior legs entirely ochraceous, we have considered it as a nondescript, and called it *P. pallipes*, from its pale feet. Mr. Bainbridge took a male at Darent; and the female figured was taken off an umbelliferous plant by Mr. Joseph Standish at Dover the end of last July.

The pretty plant in the plate, *Antirrhinum spurium* (Round-leaved Fluellin), was gathered upon the heights at Dover.