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SOME VIRTUALLY UNKNOWN NORTH AMERICAN PLATYPODIDAE (COLEOPTERA)

Stephen L. Wood¹

Only a half dozen species of Platypodidae are currently recognized as occurring in America north of Mexico. It is, therefore, of interest that two species not known generally from this area have been added to our faunistic list and an additional species is described as new.

Platypus disciporus Chapuis

Figs. 1, 4, 6

Platypus disciporus Chapuis, 1865. Monographie des Platypides, p. 219, fig. 123; Schedl, 1937, Ent. Bl. 33:40.

Platypus flavicornis var. *disciporus*, Leconte, 1876, Proc. Amer. Philos. Soc. 15:343; Blatchley and Leng, 1916, Rhynchophora of North Eastern America, p. 582; Chamberlin, 1939, Bark and Timber Beetles of North America, p. 110.

To this species Chapuis referred his female type, from Tennessee, and the female specimen he identified that was later reported by Schedl, from West Virginia. Other writers have either ignored this species or included it as a variety of *flavicornis* (Fab.). A third female was taken at Dade City, Florida, on June 18, 1951, from the bole of a large windfallen *Quercus laurifolia*, by the writer. This species is not at all closely related to the other species of *Platypus* occurring in the United States. The female may be readily distinguished from them by the pair of unusually large pores on the disc of its pronotum (Fig. 6) and by the shape of its elytral apices (Figs. 1, 4).

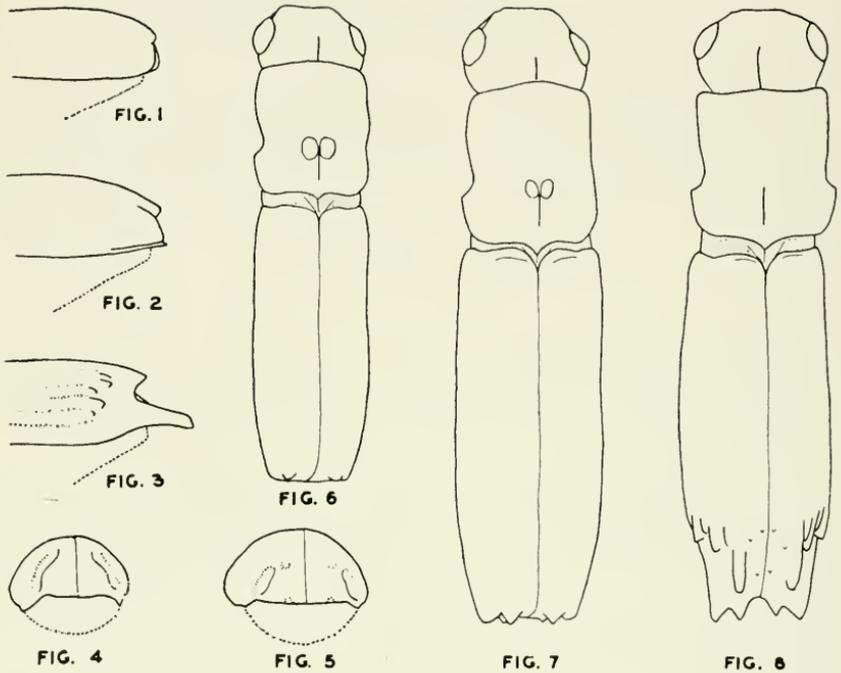
Platypus pini Hopkins

Figs. 2, 3, 5, 7, 8

Platypus pini Hopkins, 1906, Proc. Ent. Soc. Washington 7:71.

The writer was comparing specimens taken at 14 miles west of Texmelucan, Puebla, Mexico, on July 14, 1953, at an elevation of 8600 feet, from the base of a large pine tree, with Hopkins' type of *pini*, when he noticed a box of specimens of a *Platypus* species from Arizona and New Mexico, labelled as an undescribed species by Hopkins. When compared with the type it was clearly evident that both the Mexican and the specimens from the southwestern United States represented the species *pini*. Since this species, except for the type, from Mexico, has not been reported previously, the following records are included here. *Arizona*: Chiricahua Mountains, Sept. 14, 1907, *Pinus ponderosa* (Hopk. U. S. 5720c), Aug. 5, 1907, *Pinus chihuahuana* (Hopk. U. S. 5557), Oct. 16, 1907

1. Contribution No. 160, Department of Zoology and Entomology, Brigham Young University, Provo, Utah. Scolytoidea Contribution No. 15.



Figs. 1-3. Lateral aspect of elytral declivity of *Platypus* spp.: 1, *disciporus*, female; 2, *pini*, female; 3, *pini*, male.

Figs. 4-5. Posterior aspect of elytral declivity of female *Platypus* spp.: 4, *disciporus*; 5, *pini*.

Figs. 6-8. Dorsal outline of *Platypus* spp.: 6, *disciporus*, female; 7, *pini*, female; 8, *pini*, male.

(Hopk. U. S. 5557), and *Pinus ponderosa* (Hopk. U. S. 5556a), all by J. L. Webb, and June 16, Hubbard and Schwarz; Flagstaff. *Pinus ponderosa* (Hopk. U. S. 5109, 5109b, and 5109c), J. L. Webb, and July 7, Hubbard and Schwarz; Pinal Mountains. Wickham; Rincon Mountains, Oct. 14, 1907, *Pinus ponderosa* (Hopk. U. S. 7164), and same data without host (Hopk. U. S. 7160), M. Chrisman; Santa Catalina Mountains, Sept. 26, 1907, *Pinus ponderosa* (Hopk. U. S. 5603b5), and *Pinus ponderosa* (Hopk. U. S. 5641b, and 5656b), all by J. L. Webb; and Williams. June 2, Barber and Schwarz. *New Mexico*: Captain Mountains, Sept. 7, 1907, *Pinus ponderosa* (Hopk. U.S. 5520k), *Pinus ponderosa* (Hopk. U.S. 3919a), and *Pinus* (Hopk. U. S. 5599), all by J. L. Webb; Cloudcroft, *Pinus ponderosa* (Hopk. U. S. 3984), W. F. Fiske; and Meek. *Pinus ponderosa* (Hopk. U. S. 3926).

Platypus abietis, n. sp.

Figs. 9-11

This species is closely allied to *wilsoni* Swaine, but in the male is decidedly smaller, has more slender, more elongate processes at elytral apices, and has the frons and declivity more finely sculptured. The female, in addition to being smaller than the female of *wilsoni*, has the porous area of the pronotum smaller, more anterior, and much less densely punctured, and has a different posterior profile as seen from dorsal aspect.

Male. — Length 4.3 mm., 4.4 times as long as wide; color dark brown (Fig. 10).

Frons feebly impressed, less strongly than *wilsoni*, and rather finely granulate. Vestiture similar to *wilsoni*, but slightly shorter, and of more uniform length. Eyes and antennae as in *wilsoni*.

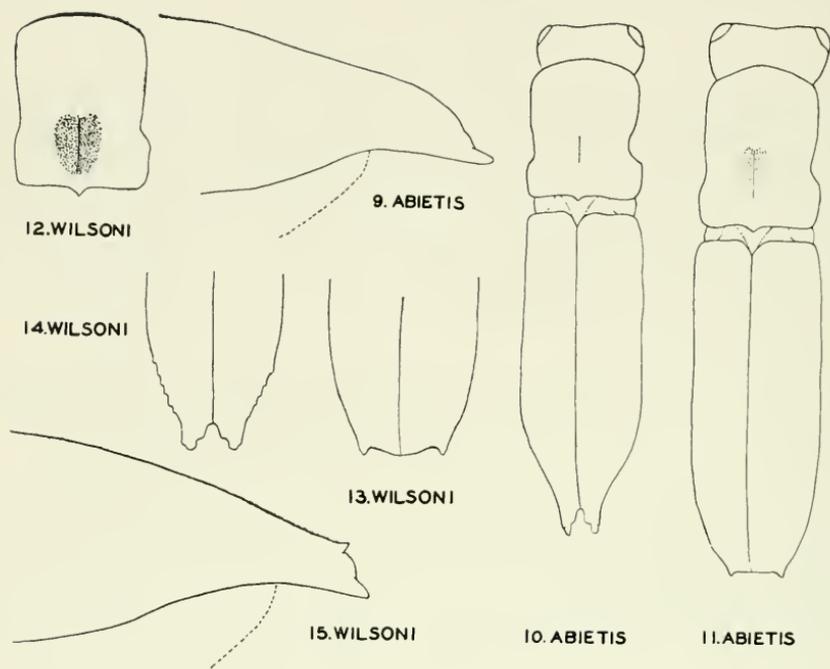
Pronotum 1.2 times as long as wide, wider on basal one-third; surface smooth and shining, except reticulate along basal margin and on anterior one-third, and covered by abundant minute pores and small shallow punctures, the punctures becoming larger and more obscurely impressed anteriorly. Scanty vestiture visible only near anterior margin. Median line rather strongly impressed along the second one-fifth of the length from the base (Fig. 10).

Elytra 2.5 times as long as wide, 2.2 times as long as pronotum; striae narrowly impressed, somewhat more shallowly and the punctures more distinct than in *wilsoni*; interstriae smooth and shining, becoming reticulate anteriorly, the punctures minute, scarcely larger than the numerous submicroscopic pores. Declivity (Fig. 9) about as in *wilsoni*, except tubercles greatly reduced in size and number, those on the eighth interspace small, those on the ninth a little larger and more abundant and extending much further anteriorly (a few scattered to elytral base as in *wilsoni*); terminal process longer and more slender than in *wilsoni*, the dorsal tooth obsolete. Declivital vestiture shorter and less abundant than in *wilsoni*.

Female. — Frons rather strongly concave, closely punctured with rather abundant moderately long vestiture, essentially the same as *wilsoni*. Median line of pronotum beginning just behind middle and extending about three fourths of the distance to the base; porous area oval, beginning at anterior end of median line and extending about one-half the distance to base, about thirty medium sized pores on each side of median line. Elytral interspaces more evenly arched, the striae less sharply defined than in male. Posterior outline as figured (Fig. 11).

Type Locality. — Oak Creek Canyon, Millard Co., Utah.

Host. — *Abies concolor*



Figs. 9-11. *Platypus abietis*: 9, lateral aspect of male declivity; 10, dorsal aspect of male; 11, dorsal aspect of female.

Figs. 12-15. *Platypus wilsoni*: 12, dorsal aspect of female pronotum; 13, dorsal aspect of female declivity; 14, dorsal aspect of male declivity; 15, lateral aspect of male declivity.

Type Material. — The male holotype, female allotype and thirty-six paratypes were taken at the type locality on April 26, 1958, from the base and roots of a large white fir, by S. L. Wood and D. E. Bright. Forty additional paratypes were taken from the following localities: the type locality, Aug. 4, 1957, by D. E. Johnson; Chiricahua Mountains, Arizona, Sept. 18, 1907, Hopk. U. S. 5548b, 5549a; Santa Catalina Mountains, Arizona, Hopk. U. S. 5721a, J. L. Webb; Williams, Arizona, Barber and Schwarz; Captain Mountains, New Mexico, Sept. 8, 1907, Hopk. U. S. 5509b, J. L. Webb; Cloudcroft, New Mexico, Hopk. U. S. 7204, and Hopk. U. S. 3978; and Las Vegas, New Mexico, Sept. 8, Barber and Schwarz. The holotype, allotype and some paratypes are in the collection of the writer; other paratypes are in the U. S. National Museum.