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## NOTES ON AMBLYCHEILA UTAHENSIS TANNER (COLEOPTERA: CICINDELIDAE)

Andrew H. Barnum\*

The tiger beetle, *Amblycheila utahensis* Tanner, was described<sup>1</sup> from one male specimen collected at Dameron (Diamond) Valley, 15 miles north of St. George, Washington County, Utah, but nothing was recorded as to its habitat.

A concentrated effort was made to collect specimens of this nocturnal, flightless beetle and on April 30, 1960, a colony of beetles was discovered by the author. Between this date and May 2, 1960, 21 specimens of both sexes were collected by the author and two of his students, A. Dean Stock and Peter Nyberg. This insect proved to be fairly common in an area across the road and northeast from the smaller of the two volcanoes in south Dameron Valley in an area of white (Navajo) sandstone ledges and fallen rocks. At the base of each small hill of white sand was very loose, but dunes were prevented from forming by the sparse vegetation. All the specimens were found near the base of the hill, under flat sandstone rocks of various sizes, and all were found singly with but one exception when three specimens were found under the same large rock. Most of the specimens were kept alive in the laboratory for six to seven weeks and many different kinds of live insects were introduced for food. It was found, however, that of the different insects so introduced, the only acceptable food was a fairly large (15-20 mm. long) darkling beetle, *Eleodes omissa* subspecies *pygmaea* Blais, commonly occurring under the same rocks with the tiger beetles. There was no cannibalism among the specimens kept together in the container.

Subsequently, on June 7, 1960, two additional specimens were collected by the author and T. Blaine Moore of Snow College in a similar area, approximately one mile to the northwest. Both specimens were located in an environment identical to that of the original discovery.

After an examination of the entire series of specimens, the following additions and corrections are made to the original description.

The head and prothorax are shiny but not glabrous, as reported by Tanner, but are ornamented with setae, there being eight to twelve long golden-colored setae sparsely scattered dorsally on the prothorax, and a mixture of many long golden-colored and black setae on the head. The proximal four antennal segments are shiny

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1. Vasco M. Tanner. Notes on some Cicindelidae of the Western United States and the South Pacific Islands with a Description of a New Species. The Great Basin Naturalist, Vol. XI (Nos. 1-2), 1951, pp 47-48.

black and ornamented with long black setae; the distal seven segments black with very numerous short golden-colored setae in addition to the few long golden-colored setae, all of which give these distal segments a decided brownish color.

There is no difference in size between the sexes, the total length of the series averaging 23.5 mm. (22-24.5 mm.).

No larval forms were found, so nothing is known of the developmental stages of the insect. It is assumed, however, that the larvae will be found underneath the rocks as are the adults.

#### A NECESSARY CORRECTION

In the previous number of the *Naturalist* (Drake and Ruhoff 1960, vol. 20, pp. 29-38) the following corrections should be made:

- p. 30. change the figure caption "Fig. 1. *Ambotingis senta* (Drake and Hambleton)" to read "Fig. 2. *Dulinius unicolor* (Signoret)."
- p. 33. change the figure caption "Fig. 2. *Dulinius unicolor* (Signoret)" to read "Fig. 1. *Ambotingis senta* (Drake and Hambleton)".

— Drake and Ruhoff