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Some Notes on Collecting Cerambycidae

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SOME NOTES ON COLLECTING CERAMBYCIDAE

ROBERT E. WARE

The chief objective of this paper is the publishing of a preliminary list of the *Cerambycidae* known to occur in Henry county, but some mention of the habits and methods of collecting these attractive beetles may not come amiss.

The members of the family *Cerambycidae* are favorites with many students of *Coleoptera* because of their attractive appearance and economic importance. The family is a large one with more than one thousand two hundred eighty three species described from North America north of Mexico, but reaching its greatest abundance in the tropics. Thirty seven species of these so called Long Horned Wood Borers have been taken in Henry county.

Specimens of all the species listed are to be found in the insect collection of Iowa Wesleyan college. They have been collected thru a period of some fifteen years. A large part of these has been taken by the author during the two years he has been doing special work in this group.

Many different methods have been employed in the collecting them. During their breeding season, wood piles particularly those of mixed species of trees have likely been the most fruitful collecting places. To chase them around thru the logs and over the wood-pile is good sport, but the collector who sits at a favorable spot and catches them as they come along has more specimens to show for his labors.

The flowers of many plants such as *Rosa*, *Cornus*, *Asclepias*, *Sambucus*, *Cephalanthus* and others attract some long horns and offer easy collecting. Street and porch lights add still more, while some species are drawn to the feast as one sugars for moths by night.

The debris along the water line of a lake or river may frequently yield some good species, while others may be found hiding under bark or sunning themselves on the leaves of trees. To get some species one must go into the deep woods and vigorously beat the limbs of trees and shrubs over a beating umbrella or beating cloth. If the place and time is properly chosen this method should be one

of the best. Perhaps the most accurate means is to collect pieces of infested wood which are put in screened breeding cages where the adult borers may be caught when they emerge. This method gives reliable information as to the food plant as well as much other valuable data. As an example of the fruitfulness of the scheme, four hickory slabs, each measuring approximately 18" x 6" x 1" have already yielded this spring twenty seven species of *Cyllene caryae*, the beautiful black and yellow hickory borer, with likely still others to be had. The numbers used in the following list are Leng's catalogue numbers:

- 14067 *Parandra brunnea* Fab.
- 14081 *Derobrachus brunneus* Forst.
- 14089 *Prionus imbricornis* L.
- 14099 *Smodicum cucujiforme* Say.
- 14178 *Stromatium fulvum* Villers.
- 14181 *Chion cinctus* Drury.
- 14190 *Eburia quadrigeminata* Say.
- 14463 *Charisalia americana* Hald.
- 14340 *Stenocorus vestitus* Hald.
- 14438 *Brachyleptura rubrica* Say.
- 14508 *Strophiona nitens* Forst.
- 14543 *Typocerus velutina* Oliv.
- 14548 *Typocerus lugubris* Say.
- 14551 *Typocerus sinuata* Newn.
- 14556 *Desmocerus palliatus* Forst.
- 14584 *Molorchus bimaculatus* Say.
- 14586 *Callimoxys fuscipennis* Lec.
- 14666 *Cylene decora* Oliv.
- 14670 *Cyllene caryae* Gahan.
- 14671 *Cyllene robiniae* Forst.
- 14679 *Xylotrechus colonus* Fab.
- 14685 *Xylotrechus quadrimaculatus* Hald.
- 14703 *Neoclytus scutellaris* Oliv.
- 14707 *Neoclytus caprea* Say.
- 14717 *Neoclytus erythrocephalus* Fab.
- 14741 *Cryptophorus verrucosus* Oliv.
- 14745 *Eudercus picipes* Fab.
- 14757 *Stenosphenus notatus* Oliv.
- 14792b *Tragidion fulvipennes* Say.
- 14795 *Purpuricenus humeralis* Fab.
- 14857 *Batyleoma suturale* Say.
- 14894 *Psenocerus supernotatus* Say.
- 14895 *Monohammus titillator* Fab.
- 14943 *Leptosylus aculifer* Say.
- 14976 *Leiopus fascicularis* Harris.
- 15016 *Hyperplatys aspersa* Say.
- 15037 *Dectes spinosus* Say.
- 15069 *Eupogonius tomentosus* Hald.

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- 15112 *Saperda candida* Fab.
- 15114 *Saperda tredentata* Oliv.
- 15123 *Saperda concolor* Lec.
- 15148 *Oberea bimaculata* Oliv.
- 15162 *Tetroapes canteriator* Drap.
- 15170 *Tetroapes tetrophthalmus* Forst.
- 15182 *Tetroapes femoratus* Lec.

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