

1899

The Scydmaenidae and Pselaphidae Occurring near Iowa City, Iowa

H. F. Wickham

Copyright ©1899 Iowa Academy of Science, Inc.

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarworks.uni.edu/pias>

Recommended Citation

Wickham, H. F. (1899) "The Scydmaenidae and Pselaphidae Occurring near Iowa City, Iowa," *Proceedings of the Iowa Academy of Science*, 7(1), 60-63.

Available at: <https://scholarworks.uni.edu/pias/vol7/iss1/9>

This Research is brought to you for free and open access by the Iowa Academy of Science at UNI ScholarWorks. It has been accepted for inclusion in Proceedings of the Iowa Academy of Science by an authorized editor of UNI ScholarWorks. For more information, please contact scholarworks@uni.edu.

recently brought back from northern Iowa by Prof. B. Shimek. Adding to the records thus established, a few others gathered from various sources, I present the following note, showing the distribution of the genus within the state as far as ascertained:

Eleodes suturalis Say. Taken in Lyon Co. (June) by Professor Shimek. Western Iowa (Professor Macbride).

Eleodes tricostata Say. This has been taken at Ames, by Professor Osborn, while Professor Shimek has given me specimens from Lyon Co. (June); eastern Emmet Co. (August); southern Dickinson Co. (August), and eastern Woodbury Co. (September). It extends as far east as Independence, Buchanan Co., where I found it in September, on a broad, dry sand-flat, along the Wapsipinicon bottom.

Eleodes opaca Say. From Lyon Co., June, Professor Shimek.

As far as my information goes it indicates that the habits of the Iowa specimens do not differ from those of western forms. The beetles are to be seen walking about on roads or other open spots in the cool of morning, and again towards evening. The heat of day drives them to shelter.

THE SCYDMÆNIDÆ AND PSELAPHIDÆ OCCURRING NEAR IOWA CITY, IOWA.

BY H. F. WICKHAM.

The minute beetles belonging to the above families have been much neglected by collectors, although their many peculiarities of habit and structure make them well worthy of attention. For three years past my wife and I have collected them systematically in this vicinity, with the result of very largely increasing the list of species known to occur here.

They seem to be most numerous in the spring, though some may be found during the summer months and many in the autumn, or even throughout the winter. Remarks on the situations most favored by them will be found in the proper places. The classification is that used by Capt. Thos. L. Casey, in his recent papers on the subject. Great assistance in their study has been rendered me by Captain Casey and by the Rev. P. Jerome Schmitt.

FAMILY SCYDMÆNIDÆ.

Euconus bicolor Lec. Our most abundant species, at times swarming in swampy spots along streams where debris has

been piled up by freshets. Occasional under stones and pieces of wood in grassy places. March, April, May.

E. occultus Cas. May 8th. Sifted from rotten oak stump in high woodland.

E. affinis Cas. Found with *E. occultus*.

E. gratus Cas. This or a very closely allied form has been taken here rarely in April and May.

E. salinator Lec. Sifted from debris on damp bottom lands. May 15th-22d.

Pycnophus rarus Lec. Not common here. It has been taken under boards with the ant *Oremastogaster lineolata* Say. May 5th-31st.

Connophron longipenne Cas. March and April, under shelter in open grassy spots.

C. formale Cas. In ants' nests. No date preserved.

C. ludificans Cas. April to June in grassy places, under stones or pieces of wood.

C. nigripenne Cas. April and May.

C. fossiger Lec. April 10th.

C. femorale Cas. April and May. Damp spots near small creeks.

C. clavicorne Cas. April. Seen chiefly under small stones in grassy places.

C. pallidum Cas. May 29th-31st. From nest of the ant *Lasius aphidicola*.

C. integrum Cas. May 1st-29th. Habits of *E. clavicorne*.

C. decorum Cas. April 15th. This and the three following species seem to prefer grassy open ground.

C. testaceipes Cas. April.

C. castaneum Cas. April.

C. triviale Cas. March and April.

C. trifidum Cas. No date.

C. fulvum Lec. May 1st-9th.

C. capillosulum Lec. March, May and June.

C. illustre Cas. No date.

C. lacunosum Cas. March and April.

C. pumilum Cas. April 14th. This and the preceding species have the habits of *decorum*.

Smicrophus leviceps Cas. No date.

Scydmænus conjux Cas. No date.

Ascydmus tener Cas. May 9th. Sifted from an old rotten oak stump in high woodland.

Eumicrus ochreatus Cas. May 5th. This and the next species live under bark, in the nests of *Lasius americanus*.

E. saginatus Cas. No date.

FAMILY PSELAPHIDÆ.

Rhexius insculptus Lec. Rare. Only three specimens have been found here, one under a stone, the others under pieces of wood in grassy spots. May 1st-15th.

Rhexidius canaliculatus Lec. Sifted from rotten oak wood. May 8th-9th.

Euplectus interruptus Lec. May 28th.

E. confuens Lec. No date.

E. elongatus Brendel. This and the next species were sifted from a rotten oak stump. May 8th.

E. pertenuis Cas. May 8th.

Thesiastes fossulatus Brendel. June 11th.

Melba sulcatula Cas. April 28th, June 12th. Rare. The first mentioned specimen was taken from an oak stump with *Lasius americanus*. The other was sifted from a pile of dead grass in damp bottom land.

Batrisus scabriceps Lec. Two specimens thus named by Dr. Brendel are in my cabinet without date.

B. fossicauda Cas. Common in nests of *Formica subsericea* and *F. exsectoides*. April and May.

B. frontalis Lec. Under bark, with *Lasius americanus*; also found beneath leaves in woodland without the ants. March, April and May.

B. globosus Lec. An abundant species, usually frequenting damp grassy spots where it may be trapped by laying out pieces of board and turning them over occasionally. Sometimes found with *Lasius americanus*. March, April and May.

B. foveicornis Cas. One specimen, April 13th, in nest of *Lasius*, doubtfully *L. aphidicola*.

B. furcatus Brendel. No date.

B. denticollis Cas. April 14th.

B. striatus Lec. Probably our commonest species of the genus. It has about the same habits as *globosus* and has been taken from March to June.

Decarthron abnorme Lec. Rather common under stones and pieces of wood or grassy spots. April, May and June.

D. exsectum Brendel. No date.

Rybaxis truncaticornis Brendel. Not uncommon in the same situations as *D. abnorme*. March to June.

Bryaxis arguta Cas. Common with the preceding. Found in April, May and June.

Reichenbachia divergens Lec. March to June, common, with other species. My experience has been that the species of *Reichenbachia* differ little in habits. They frequent open grassy spots and may be found under stones and pieces of wood.

R. facilis Cas. April and June.

R. subsimilis Cas. May 22d. Determination uncertain.

R. congener Brendel. March to June.

R. cribricollis Brendel. April and May.

R. rubicunda Aube. April 15th.

R. bicolor Brendel. No date.

R. puncticollis Lec. May 15th-22d.

R. sodalis Cas. March, April and May.

R. peregrinator Cas. May 22d.

Anchylarthron cornutum Brendel. No date.

Cylindrarctus longipalpis Lec. No date.

C. crinifer Cas. May 22d. Sifted from piles of dead grass.

Tychus minor Lec. April 15th.

Pselephus erichsoni Lec. Many specimens have been taken about the end of November, nearly all in one very circumscribed locality. They hide under small stones which lie upon turf.

Pilopius lacustris Cas. This species is rather common in exposed places, under pieces of stone or wood, late in the autumn and early in the spring.

P. consobrinus Lec. No date.

P. zimmermanni Lec. No date.

Ceophyllus monilis Lec. April, May, June, in nests of *Lasius aphidicola* (and *Lasius interjectionis*?). Not uncommon.

Tmesiphorus costalis Lec. May 29th. One specimen sifted from dead leaves covering a nest of *Lasius americanus*.

T. carinatus Say. April 27th.

Adranes lecontei Brendel. Found in nests of *Lasius aphidicola* in May and June; also in the autumn in nests of some yellow *Lasius*.