
TWO NEW SPECIES OF *MELANOTUS*
(COLEOPTERA: ELATERIDAE)

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The two following species of *Melanotus* appear to differ from our described forms.

Melanotus hamatus n. sp.

Male.—Narrow, elongate; dark reddish brown throughout; clothed on both surfaces with pubescence.

Head convex; clypeus obtusely rounded, margined, margin reflexed near eyes, slightly overhanging nasus; surface with coarse umbilicate punctures; antenna densely pubescent, when laid along side extending part of one segment beyond hind angles of pronotum, second segment about as long as wide, third a trifle longer, second and third together shorter than fourth, segments 4 to 10 inclusive strongly serrate; parantennal fovea deep; mandible with a deep elongate fovea near base.

Pronotum slightly longer than wide, widest across hind angles, anterior margin broadly sinuate, median lobe not well indicated; basal margin with deep indentation toward side margin; side margin broadly rounded in front, subparallel in middle, slightly sinuate near base, hind angles acute; disk convex, a slight median depression near base in front of scutellum, a well-developed oblique carina on each hind angle; surface with punctures in middle separated by more than their own diameters, becoming larger and umbilicate toward sides. Scutellum longer than wide, minutely punctate.

Elytra at base narrower than pronotum, widest back of base; sides converging to apices which are rounded to suture; disk convex; surface striately punctate, punctures much coarser toward base, becoming much smaller toward apex, interspaces flat, very finely punctate.

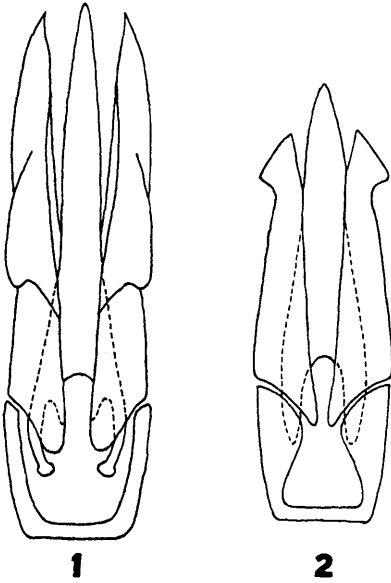
Abdomen beneath coarsely densely punctured toward sides, punctures much smaller in middle, last sternite convex. Prosternum very convex, prosternal lobe declivous, acutely rounded. Posterior tarsus nearly as long as tibia.

Length 10.2 mm; width 2.9 mm.

Female.—Differs from ♂ by antennae not extending to hind angles of pronotum, segments 4 to 10 inclusive less serrate and not as pubescent.

Holotype ♂, allotype and paratype labeled Chisos Mountains, Texas, July 8, 1936, J. N. Knull collector. Paratypes labeled Chisos Basin, Big Bend National Park, Texas, July 16 and 17, 1956, H. and A. Howden and same locality July 4 and 5, 1942, H. A. Scullen. Holotype, allotype and paratypes in collection of author, paratypes in collections of H. A. Howden and M. C. Lane, to whom I am indebted for loan of material.

It can be separated from any of our other species by form of ♂ genitalia (fig. 1).



Ventral surface of male genitalia of:
 FIGURE 1. *Melanotus hamatus* n. sp.
 FIGURE 2. *Melanotus concisus* n. sp.

***Melanotus concisus* n. sp.**

Male.—Short, narrow, dark brown throughout, legs lighter; clothed on both surfaces with short pubescence.

Head convex, flattened on front, clypeal margin broadly rounded, overhanging nasus; surface with coarse umbilicate punctures; antenna when laid along side, extending part of one segment beyond hind angle of pronotum, second segment about as long as broad, third of about equal size, together subequal to fourth, densely pubescent, segments 4 to 10 longer than wide, serrate; parantennal fovea deep; mandible with deep fovea at base.

Pronotum slightly longer than wide, widest across hind angles; anterior margin broadly sinuate, median lobe broad; side margin broadly rounded posteriorly, subparallel near base, hind angles acute; disk convex a faint prehumeral carina; surface with dense coarse umbilicate punctures on anterior two-thirds and toward sides, basal third finely sparsely punctate. Scutellum elongate, finely punctate.

Elytra back of base slightly wider than base of pronotum; side margin subparallel back of base, then broadly rounded to suture; disk convex; surface coarsely striately punctate, punctures not separated by their own diameters, intervals slightly convex, minutely punctate.

Abdomen beneath finely, sparsely punctate, last sternite densely, coarsely punctured. Prosternum very convex, densely, coarsely punctured; prosternal lobe declivous, margin broadly rounded. Posterior tarsus not as long as tibia.

Length 6.7 mm; width 2 mm.

Female.—Unknown.

Described from a small series taken at light at Artesia, N.M., July 29, 1937 by D. J. and J. N. Knull. Holotype and paratypes in collection of writer. Paratype in collection of M. C. Lane. It can be separated from the other members of the genus by its small size and shape of ♂ genitalia (fig. 2)