

NEW BUPRESTIDÆ FROM CALIFORNIA<sup>1</sup>

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At the time *Polycesta cyaneous* was described<sup>2</sup> a very limited number of specimens was available although a considerable series came to hand just as the completed manuscript was being submitted for publication. These were set aside and were never critically examined until recently. Careful examination has revealed that the specimens described as *P. cyaneous* represented two quite distinct species. The males were all *P. cyaneous* as described, while some of the females were what is described below as *Polycesta tularensis*. The figure, page 44, JOURNAL NEW YORK ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY, Vol. XLI, labeled *cyaneous* is correct as to the male but the female is *tularensis*. Also, another error occurs in the same article under the figure at the top of page 44; *velasco* is credited to Lec. whereas the species was described by Gory as stated on page 38.

***Polycesta tularensis*, new species.**

Male: broadly elongate, color of the entire body bluish black more shining beneath, thorax a trifle wider than the elytra at the base. Front slightly concave with a median, elevated smooth line running from the clypeal suture to the vertex. Prothorax with a wide, rather deep median depression, along the bottom of which extends an elevated smooth, shining line; depression flanked on either side by elevated, finely granulated areas marked by scattered deep round punctures, balance of thoracic surface very irregular and with very coarse, deep punctures; sides angulated, widest just behind the middle.

Elytra with second and fourth costæ high, cristiform, smooth, others nearly obsolete. Intervals with two parallel rows of large deep punctures, interspaced and surrounded by smaller ones. Sides nearly parallel for almost two-thirds, thence rapidly converging to the tip. Elytral tips with numerous quite prominent spines and the extreme tip of each elytron terminating with a large acute spine.

<sup>1</sup> Published as technical paper No. 267 with the approval of the director of the Oregon Experiment Station. A contribution from the Dept. of Entomology.

<sup>2</sup> 1933 Chamberlin, W. J. A synopsis of the genus *Polycesta*, etc. Journ. N. Y. Ent. Soc. XLI pp. 32-45.



Prosternum elevated, shining, with a few scattered shallow punctures between the coxæ, first transverse abdominal suture sinuate so that the center is bowed cephalad. Last ventral quite triangular, tip with a very faint indentation and a short elevated keel extending nearly one-half the distance to the base. Length 15–20 mm.; width 6.5–8 mm.

Female as described for *Polycesta cyaneous* but a series shows the size to be much larger on the average. The majority are from 20 to 22 mm. in length and 8 to 9 mm. in width.

Type locality: Springville, Tulare County, California, August—collected by F. T. Scott. Type and allotype in author's collection, paratypes in Mr. Scott's collection and in collections of the California Academy of Science.

The species is quite near *P. cyaneous* but is readily distinguished by its larger size, distinctly bluish color, angulated thorax, the smooth median line on the front, the median line of the prothorax and the acuminate spine at the tip of each elytron; all serve to distinguish this from other species of the genus.

Since the female *P. cyaneous* previously described is in reality the female of *tularensis* the following descriptions of the allotype *P. cyaneous* is given.

*P. cyaneous* female allotype: Color dull rusty black, shape same as in the male; sides of thorax rounded, slight median depression without line, front flat without elevated line. Scutellum very prominent, bulbous, shining black; elytra striate punctuate as in the male, spines at tip of elytra smaller and extreme tip without prominent acuminate spine.

Last ventral broadly, evenly, rounded, length 14 to 18 mm.; width 5.8 to 7 mm. Type locality same as for the male.

### HIPPOMELAS

As now constituted (Leng's Catalogue of the Coleoptera) this genus contains rather a heterogeneous group of species. The characters heretofore separating *Hippomelas* and *Gyascutus* being either sexual, variable, or very minute it is perhaps best to leave the genus as now constituted, until someone who has access to the types will revise the entire groups.

The following new species is very distinct.

***Hippomelas pacifica***, new species.

Male: color dull black with only a very faint tinge of brown. Body elongate, sides quite parallel, thorax roughly, deeply sculptured, the irregular



elevations smooth and jet black; depressions rather coarsely punctate with a faint bronze tinge. Sides of elytra nearly parallel three-quarter, thence rounded, tips slightly truncate. First two striae faintly evident. Elytra distinctly transversely carinulate in the humeral region, faint indication of serrations near tip. Dorsal surface with scattered, very fine pubescence. Ventral surface with scattered, longer, silver pubescence—Prosternum elevated roughened with large pores. Last ventral truncate. Front tibia curved; tarsi of all legs about  $4/5$  as long as tibia.

Antennae extend to middle of the thorax, first segment almost as long as two and three combined, first 3 quite cylindrical, serrate after third with segment 4 distinctly wider than any of the others. Last segment entire with a few bristle-like hairs. Length, male 10.7 mm.; width 3.6.

Female: color dull black with distinct greenish reflections. Thorax as in male, sub-equal in width to elytra. Elytra quite parallel two-thirds then gradually narrowed, serrate near tips, which are slightly indentate with two small lateral teeth.

Antennae as in male except that the terminal segment has the process common to other species of this genus.

Prosternum very much roughened and dull in color. Venter with faint greenish tinge.

Front very much roughened in both sexes, carina above antennae prominent and sharp. Antennae inserted very close to the eyes. Female, length 13.9 to 19 mm.; width 4.9 to 6 mm.

The smaller size, dull color, roughened thorax and prosternum and the transverse carinulate elytra all serve to distinguish this species from all others of the genus, none of which the new species resembles.

Described from four specimens, one male and three females as follows:

Type male, Rolinda, Fresno County, California, VI-12-27.

Allotype and paratype, Mendota, Cal., VII-7.

Another female collected at Kettleman, Kern Co., California, on sage brush, VI-11-33.

All specimens were submitted by Roy S. Wagner who has the paratypes.



Chamberlin, W. J. 1938. "New Buprestidæ from California." *Journal of the New York Entomological Society* 46, 445–447.

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