

## THE PSEUDOSCORPIONS OF TEXAS.

BY NATHAN BANKS.

Some time ago Mr. C. T. Brues sent me some pseudoscorpions from Texas. Most of them were taken near Austin, and several of them from ant-nests. Two of these prove to be new species. This induced me to examine and determine all my Texan material in this order. There are 10 species, six of these belong to one genus *Chelanops*, four of them being new. One of the species found in an ant's-nest occurs also near Washington, D. C., often under large stones. The most common Texan species is *Chelanops oblongus*, a species widely distributed in the United States east of the Rocky Mountains. The two species of *Chelifer* are found in many parts of the eastern United States, the *C. cancroides* usually in houses or other buildings. When more attention is paid to collecting these creatures, no doubt the Texan list will be double what it is now.

***Chelifer cancroides* Linn.**

Brazos Co., New Braunfels.

***Chelifer muricatus* Say.**

Austin, and Esperanza Ranch, Brownsville.

***Chelanops oblongus* Say.**

Austin, in fungi; Brazos Co.; San Antonio; Brownsville; and Columbus.

***Chelanops texanus* Banks.**

Brazos Co.

***Chelanops unicolor* n. sp.**

Cephalothorax, palpi, and abdominal scutæ a uniform pale brownish yellow, rest whitish yellow. Cephalothorax nearly one and



one-half times as long as broad, narrowed and rounded in front, evenly and finely granulate, with two transverse furrows in the posterior part, the hind one indented in the middle; the hairs of cephalothorax are distinctly clavate, and on each of the dorsal scutæ are five strongly clavate hairs in a row. Palpi short and rather heavy, the hairs plainly clavate, except those on the fingers; the femur is scarcely as long as width of the cephalothorax; the tibia plainly shorter, very convex on inner basal part; the hand about twice as broad as femur, and as long as tibia, evenly convex each side, the fingers about the length of hand, stout and slightly curved. The hairs on under side of body are simple, but most of those on the basal joints of legs are clavate. Abdomen is about twice as long as broad, each side slightly convex. Length, 2 mm.

From nests of ants (*Eciton cæcum* and *Pachycondyla harpax*) at Austin Texas.

**Chelanops tumimanus** n. sp.

Cephalothorax, scutæ, and palpi dark red brown, almost black, fingers rather paler, posterior margin of cephalothorax, except a median square, is pale yellowish; legs brownish on femora, femora III. and IV. quite dark; all hard parts finely and evenly granulate. The cephalothorax is about one and one-quarter times as long as broad behind, much tapering in front, eye-spots indistinct, the surface with some scattered very distinctly clavate hairs; each dorsal scutum with a row of fine clavate hairs near posterior edge, and one on middle of lateral edge. Abdomen fully twice as long as broad, each side slightly convex. Palpi heavy and short, clothed with very strongly clavate hairs, except those on the outer side of hand and those from the fingers; femur not as long as width of cephalothorax, very much swollen on outer base; tibia but little shorter and barely, if any, wider than femur, rather evenly convex on both sides, the greatest inner convexity at the middle; hand very heavy, twice as wide as femur, but scarcely as long as tibia, very much swollen on inner base; the fingers shorter than the hand, very stout and slightly curved. Venter with a row of dark spots each side, the hairs simple, but those on femora and outer side of tibiæ clavate. Length 2.5 mm.

San Antonio, August.



***Chelanops æqualis* n. sp.**

Cephalothorax and abdominal scutæ dark brown, palpi clear reddish brown, legs yellowish. Cephalothorax about one and one-quarter longer than broad behind, tapering and rounded in front, eyespots indistinct, surface finely and evenly granulate, with short scattered thick hairs. Palpi large, trochanter with a swelling above and one behind; femur as long as width of cephalothorax, sides subparallel; tibiæ about as long as femur, slightly wider, the inner convexity is greatest before the middle; the hand is nearly as long as the tibia and about one and a half times wider, more strongly convex on inner than on the outer side; the fingers large, as long as hand, and only slightly curved; the hairs on the inner side of tibia, femur, and trochanter are almost clavate, the others are simple. The abdomen is about two and a half times as long as broad, the posterior edge of each scutem has from 9 to 11 simple hairs. Legs rather long and slender, with simple hairs; the hind femora not swollen. Length 3.3 mm.

From El Paso, Texas.

***Chelanops pulchellus* n. sp.**

Cephalothorax dark brown, with an oblong silvery white spot in each posterior lateral corner; abdominal scutæ brown, the outer end of most of them with a silvery mark; palpi dark-red brown, almost black in the swollen parts, but the fingers are very much paler. Cephalothorax nearly one and a half times as long as broad behind, much tapering in front, with a few short, thick hairs. Palpi rather short; femur scarcely as long as width of cephalothorax, outer side evenly convex, inside slightly concave before tip; tibia scarcely as long as femur, but plainly wider, the greatest inner convexity at about the middle; hand heavy, about as long as tibia and one and a half times wider, both sides evenly convex; fingers stout, a little shorter than hand; the hairs on inner side of tibia, femur, and trochanter short, and almost clavate. Abdomen fully twice as long as broad, each scutum with about 8 very short hairs on posterior margin. Legs short, hind femora distinctly thickened; the hairs on outer side of femora and tibiæ short and thickened. Length 2.3 mm.

Esperanza Ranch, Brownsville, Texas.



The six species of *Chelanops* now known from Texas may be separated by the following table:

- |  |                   |
|--|-------------------|
| 1. Many hairs on palpi distinctly clavate.....                   | 2                 |
| Hairs on palpi not plainly clavate.....                          | 4                 |
| 2. Fingers equal to hand, which is not very large, small species |                   |
| .....  | <b>unicolor</b>   |
| Fingers shorter than hand.....                                   | 3                 |
| 3. Hand very heavy, nearly twice as wide as tibiae.....          | <b>tumimanus</b>  |
| Hand not heavy, but little wider than the tibia.....             | <b>texanus</b>    |
| 4. Fingers plainly paler than the hand, small species.....       | <b>pulchellus</b> |
| Fingers as dark as hand, larger species.....                     | 5                 |
| 5. Fingers shorter than hand.....                                | <b>oblongus</b>   |
| Fingers as long as hand.....                                     | <b>æqualis</b>    |

**Ideobisium rufulum** Banks.

From nest of *Camponotus sansabeanus*, Austin.

**Olpium minutum** n. sp.

Cephalothorax pale yellowish brown, darker in front, palpi yellowish brown, the fingers the darkest; abdominal scutæ yellowish, legs and venter whitish. Cephalothorax one and a-half times longer than broad, hind border rounded, but little narrowed in front, two distinct eyes each side close together. Palpi short; femur about as long as width of cephalothorax, a trifle wider at tip than near base, tibia nearly as long as femur and one and one-fourth times wider, the greatest inner convexity at middle, hand fully as long as tibia, one and one-fourth wider, sides but little convex; fingers stout, much shorter than the hand; hairs of palpi fine and uneven. Abdomen three and one-half times as long as wide, each scutum with 3 or 4 very fine hairs on posterior margin. Legs very short, hind femora slightly swollen, tarsi very short. Length 1.6 mm.

In nest of *Eciton cæcum*, Austin, Texas. Differs from *O. obscurum* in paler color, smaller size, longer abdomen, and more slender cephalothorax.



Banks, Nathan. 1908. "The pseudoscorpions of Texas." *Bulletin of the Wisconsin Natural History Society* 6, 39–42.

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