THINOBIIUS.

Group THINOBIIINA.

It is necessary to separate Thinobius and its immediate allies from the other groups of the subfamily "Oxyteline," as they possess a different structure of the prothoracic side-pieces and of the front coxae, making some approach in these respects to the subfamily "Aleocarinae."

THINOBIIUS.


This genus comprises at present about twenty species, all from the European and North-American region, with the exception of one from Chili. They are amongst the most minute of Coleoptera, and it is quite probable that the genus will prove to be rich in species and widely distributed. The different species are found in muddy places, and especially about the sandy banks of rivers and streams.

1. Thinobius tenuis. (Tab. XVIII. fig. 22.)

Fusco-piceus, antennis pedibusque sordide testaceis; antennis longissimis, fere ad elytrorunm apicem attingentibus; omnino subtillisimse punctatulus, opacus.

Long. 1½ millim.

Hab. GUATEMALA, San Gerónimo (Champion).

Antennæ slender and elongate; third joint more slender and much shorter than the second; terminal three joints very elongate, scarcely perceptibly thicker than those preceding them. Thorax obscure red, nearly straight at the sides, rather strongly transverse. Elytra one and a half times as long as the thorax. Hind body distinctly pubescent.

This insect is about the size of the European T. longipennis, but has a more elongate head and thorax and remarkably long antennæ. Five examples. In our figure the antennæ are represented as very much thicker than they should be.

2. Thinobius thripoides.

Fusceus, antennarum basi pedibusque sordide testaceis; antennis tenuibus, modice elongatis; omnino subtillisimse punctatulus.

Long. 1½ millim.

Hab. GUATEMALA, San Gerónimo (Champion).

Antennæ with the terminal joints slender, though slightly broader than the others; none of the joints transverse, the terminal joint short. Head very narrow, the eyes very small. Thorax about twice as long as broad. Elytra about twice as long as the thorax, very dehiscent at the apex. Two examples.

This species is extremely similar to the European T. longipennis, but is not half the size, and has a narrower head and smaller eyes.

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