This, the finest species of the genus, is found in dry elevated districts; it has not yet been received from Costa Rica, or the State of Panama, nor has it ever been taken in Chili.

2. Zopherus mexicanus.


Hab. Mexico (coll. F. Bates), Chiapas (Sallé); British Honduras, Rio Sarstoon (Blancaneaux); Guatemala (Sallé); Aceituno (Salvin), Panajachel, Godines, Calderas, Capetillo (Champion); Nicaragua (Sallé).

This is a pretty common species in the drier parts of the highlands of Guatemala, and found under loose bark, &c., and often crawling on stumps during the dry season. I adopt the name of Z. mexicanus, Sol.; the description of Z. mexicanus, Gray, would apply equally well to any of the black and white species. Z. jourdani, Sallé, is identical with this, and is indeed so labelled in the Sallé collection. Mexican specimens sometimes differ a little from those from Guatemala in having the rows of tubercles on the elytra larger and more irregular; but in a long series of specimens intermediate forms will be found.

3. Zopherus jansoni. (Tab. II. fig. 2.)

Zopherus jansoni, F. Bates in litt.

Head dull black, with a large triangular white patch extending nearly to the anterior margin and spotted with black in the middle; prothorax convex, sides strongly trisinate and crenulate towards the base, base subtruncate, yellowish white spotted with black, the spots larger and often confluent on the disc and smaller and more distinct towards the sides, with a large oblique black spot at the base on each side; elytra moderately convex, base deeply emarginate and with the margin raised, shoulders produced in front and the angles raised, yellowish white, with rows of large smooth flattened black elevations or spots arranged thus—a row of about four or five very large and subtriangular in shape, a row similar of three or four, a row (often obsolete) of two or three smaller, and a marginal row small of about five, the spaces between the spots with scattered smaller irregular elevations, the spots along the suture more regularly arranged and increasing in size towards the base, the large spots of the first two rows more or less connected by a longitudinal white line or band, apex bituberculate. Beneath dull black; margins of the head, thorax, meso- and metasternum, and ventral segments broadly marked with yellowish white spotted with black; ventral segments with a few scattered shallow punctures, ventral callosity but little prominent, the anterior margin of which is sinuate, flanks of the prothorax with a few small scattered tubercles.

Length 21–25 millim.

Hab. Nicaragua, Chontales (Belt, Janson); Costa Rica (Van Patten), Irazú (Rogers).

This species is allied to Z. mexicanus, Sol., but is smaller, narrower, and not so convex; it is more densely clothed with white (especially beneath) than its allies; the elytra have only two distinct rows of large spots, which are usually placed upon [or connected by] longitudinal white lines or bands, the base is strongly emarginate, and the shoulders very prominent.