

## DYSDERCUS.

*Dysdercus*, Amyot & Serville, Hist. des Hém. p. 272 (1843); Stål, Hem. Afr. iii. p. 13 (1865); En. Hem. p. 103 (1870).

*Astemma*, Lap. Ess. Hém. p. 37 (1832).

*Piezodera*, Sign. Ann. Soc. Ent. de Fr. sér. 3, viii. p. 953 (1861).

This genus and one close ally possess a fundamental difference from the other genera of the subfamily, as pointed out by Stål, in having the wings complete and without a hook. Its species are very widely distributed, and found throughout the tropical and subtropical portions of the world; and their wide variation in colour and markings, especially as found in Central America, affords perplexing features to their right discrimination and identification. The general form and contour is often a trustworthy guide; but the colour differences are frequently misleading, unless a long series is examined.

### 1. *Dysdercus mimus*. (Tab. XXI. fig. 4.)

*Capsus mimus*, Say, New Harm. Ind. Dec. 1831; Compl. Writ. i. p. 338<sup>1</sup>.

*Dysdercus mimus*, Stål, Stett. ent. Zeit. xxiii. p. 316. 231<sup>2</sup>; En. Hem. i. p. 120. 14<sup>3</sup>; Uhler, Bull. U.S. Geol. & Geogr. Surv. ii. p. 314. 1<sup>4</sup>.

*Hab.* NORTH AMERICA<sup>1</sup>, Texas<sup>4</sup>, California<sup>4</sup>.—MEXICO<sup>2 3</sup> (*Hiller, Mus. Vind. Cæs.*), Oaxaca (*Mus. Berol.*), Mazatlan, Presidio, Ventanas (*Forrer*), Jalapa (*Höge*); GUATEMALA, Zapote, Dueñas, near the city (*Champion*); NICARAGUA, Chontales (*Janson*), Corcuera (*M<sup>c</sup>Niel, Mus. Vind. Cæs.*); COSTA RICA, Irazu, Cache (*Rogers*).—CUBA, Hayti<sup>4</sup>; ST. DOMINGO, Port au Prince (*Mus. Berol.*).

Mr. Uhler<sup>4</sup>, who had evidently examined a large series of specimens of this species, truly observes:—"In some varieties from Mexico the head, pronotum, and corium are entirely black; and from this to the variety with only a point of black on the middle of the corium every variety occurs." To this list may be added varieties in my own collection, in which the corium is totally ochraceous or only very slightly infuscated. The Guatemalan specimen here figured represents one of the very dark varieties.

According to Mr. Uhler<sup>4</sup>, this species in Hayti "abounds in gardens, and affects small growths in damp or low grounds."

### 2. *Dysdercus albidiventris*. (Tab. XXI. figg. 5, 10.)

*Dysdercus albidiventris*, Stål, Öfv. Vet.-Ak. Förh. 1854, p. 236. 2; Stett. ent. Zeit. xxiii. p. 315. 230<sup>1</sup>; En. Hem. i. p. 121. 15<sup>2</sup> (excl. *C. mimus*, Say); Uhler, Bull. U.S. Geol. & Geogr. Surv. ii. p. 314. 2<sup>3</sup>.

*Dysdercus lunulatus*, Uhler, Proc. Ent. Soc. Philad. i. 24<sup>4</sup>; Stål, En. Hem. i. p. 124. 30.

*Hab.* NORTH AMERICA, Texas<sup>3</sup>, California<sup>3</sup>.—MEXICO<sup>1 2 3 4</sup> (*coll. Sign.; Mus. Berol.*), Orizaba (*Bilimek, Mus. Vind. Cæs.*), Presidio (*Forrer*); GUATEMALA, Zapote, Teleman