

CYLIONUS*.

Cylionus, Cook, Pr. U.S. Nat. Mus. xxi. p. 462 (1898).

Ventral surface of the *segments*, external to the articulation of the legs, with the posterior border much straighter than in *Sphæriodesmus*, only slightly sinuous and oblique in the anterior half of the body and becoming quite straight in its posterior half, with a small tooth and notch external to the posterior leg; the anterior spiniform tubercle farther away from the base of the anterior leg.

Body highly vaulted, distinctly compressed at the base of the keels, which, at least in the middle and posterior regions of the body, project slightly obliquely outwards and downwards. Most of the *keels* gradually narrowed and pointed; those of the fourth noticeably larger than of the fifth; those of the third at all events larger than in the genus *Sphæriodesmus*. For sexual characters, see the description of *C. constrictus* and also of *C. gracilis*.

Distribution. MEXICO.

The comparatively large size of the keels of the third segment and the small size of those of the fifth in this genus must be taken into consideration in judging of the possible relationships between *Sphæriodesmus* and *Cyclodesmus*, the third segment being the largest of the series in the latter. It must also be remarked that the phallopods of *C. constrictus* show considerable similarity to these same organs in *Cyclodesmus aztecus* as depicted by Carl (Rev. Zool. Suisse, x. p. 678, t. 12. fig. 109, 1902).

The typical species of this genus, *C. gracilis*, Sauss., is unknown to me, except from the description that Saussure and Humbert have published. It was also unknown to Cook, who proposed to separate it generically from *Sphæriodesmus*. I have therefore recharacterised *Cylionus* from the species described below as new, which in many of its characters unmistakably resembles *C. gracilis*. The two may be distinct generically; certainly they differ considerably in the structure of their copulatory organs. But in the present state of our knowledge it seems to me to be preferable to refer them to the same genus, rather than to erect another genus for this new species.

By the structure of the phallopods the two known species of *Cylionus* may be distinguished as follows:—

- a. Phallopod terminating in two strongly incurved hooked processes, the upper
bifid, the lower simple and pointed *gracilis*.
- a'. Phallopod terminally bent strongly upwards and outwards *constrictus*.

1. *Cylionus constrictus*, sp. n. (Tab. IX. figg. 5–5f.)

Colour uniformly yellowish-white when cleared of adherent dirt. *Body* small and narrow, with the dorsal surface strongly convex and a shallow constriction at the base of the keels, which incline slightly outwards. *Antennæ* lightly incrassate; second, third, and sixth segments subequal and longer than the fourth and fifth. *First tergal plate* with postero-lateral border strongly arched, the lateral angle nearly rectangular. *Keels* of the second narrower and shorter than those of the third, which are comparatively large and extend inferiorly as low as those of the fourth, with anterior border convex and posterior border concave. Keels of fourth moderately large, much larger than those of the fifth, which are intermediate

* Omitted from the Zool. Record, 1898.