

be separated as a family from *Lophodesmus*, *Psochodesmus*, and others in which the dorsal area of the terga is furnished with two crests of enlarged granules. At the present time, however, this would be, in my opinion, an unnecessary proceeding.

The known Central-American genera belonging to this group may be readily distinguished as follows:—

- a.* Dorsal surface fairly uniformly covered with tubercles; the dorsal crests not coalesced on the 19th and 20th tergal plates; pores present on the keels of the 9th, 12th, and 16th segments LOPHODESMUS.
- a*¹. Dorsal surface not uniformly tubercular; the dorsal crests coalesced to form a single median crest on the 19th and 20th segments; no pores upon the 9th, 12th, and 16th segments DECAPORODESMUS.

Related to these two genera, and lying somewhat midway between them in the number of pores, is the genus *Psochodesmus*, Cook * ('Brandtia,' v. p. 25, 1896), the type species of which, namely *P. crescentis*, was from Florida; three others assigned to *Cryptodesmus* were subsequently described by Brölemann (Ann. Soc. Ent. Fr. lxvii. p. 268, 1898) from Venezuela (see Attems, Denk. Akad. Wien, lxxviii. p. 370, 1900). Attems, however, places *Psochodesmus* in the Cryptodesminæ and *Lophodesmus* in the Pyrgodesminæ. Brölemann's species of *Psochodesmus* differ from the Central-American forms here referred to *Lophodesmus* in having the anterior border of the keels dentate and no pores on the keels of the 16th segment.

LOPHODESMUS.

Lophodesmus, Pocock, in Weber's Reise Niederl. Ostind. iii. p. 372 (1894); Attems, Denk. Akad. Wien, lxxviii. p. 377 (1900); Carl, Rev. Suisse Zool. x. p. 669 (1902).

Body convex, sometimes strongly elevated and compressed, with strongly inclined keels; keels small or large with lobate lateral margins, those of the second segment somewhat larger than those of the third and fourth segments. First tergal plate with its anterior edge produced into a horizontal crest completely covering the head and antennæ, its anterior border with ten lobes. Head strongly rugose on the frontal area. Antennæ short, thick, the fifth segment the longest and thickest. Segments tubercular, with a pair of dorsal crests formed of larger tubercles. Anal tergal plate broad; its margin with six lobes. Pores very distinct on segments 5, 7, 9, 10, 12, 13, 15, 16 †, carried on pale pedicels projecting from the posterior angle of the laterally bilobate keels. Legs short. Sterna narrow, sulcate. Phallopods with coxal segment protruding, enlarged to form a dome-shaped cavity facing inwards and lodging the terminal portion of the organ.

Type, *L. pusillus*, Poc.

Distribution. E. India (Flores and Java); CENTRAL AMERICA.

Two of the species here referred to *Lophodesmus* appear to belong unmistakably to that genus, but the third with the large laminate keels, more like those of *Cryptodesmus*, may possibly deserve generic distinction. I prefer, however, to leave it in this genus,

* Omitted from the 'Zoological Record.'

† In some specimens, at all events, minute pores appear to be retained on the dorsal side of the posterior lobe of the keels of the 17th, 18th, and 19th segments.