

The descriptions of this species furnished by Saussure and Carl compel me to regard it as distinct from the form described above as *S. geddesi*. According to Carl's figures of the phallopod, the apical or distal hollow in *S. cyaneus* is much longer and narrower, has no spiniform teeth on its proximal margin, and the seminal stile instead of being semicircularly curved and directed straight inwards, is sharply geniculate at the base and projects decidedly downwards and inwards with a sinuous curvature. In general form the two species are much alike, but de Saussure represents the anterior borders of the keels as considerably more convex than they are in *S. geddesi*, especially on the first tergal plate are the anterior borders of the keels produced and convex, thus giving rise to the median concavity he describes and figures. This does not exist in *S. geddesi*, where the anterior border forms from side to side a continuous curve, strongly pronounced laterally. Lastly, he makes no mention of any denticle on the antero-lateral border of the keels nor of a tooth upon the posterior angle, the margin of the keels forming, according to his figure, a continuous curve. Perhaps no great reliance should be placed upon the differences in colour; it must be borne in mind, however, that he describes *S. cyaneus* as green and represents the legs and keels as the same colour as the body. His animal is also larger, the length being 47 millim. and the width 7.

Hab. MEXICO, Orizaba ¹⁻⁶.

RHACHIDOMORPHA.

Rhachidomorpha, Saussure, Mém. Soc. Phys. Genève, xv. p. 326 (1860); Saussure & Humbert, Miss. Sci. Mex., Myr. p. 37 (1872).

Rhachidomorpha, Attems, Denk. Akad. Wien, lxvii. p. 410 (1899).

Microrhachis, Carl, Rev. Suisse Zool. xi. p. 556 (1903).

Distinguishable from all the Central-American genera by the shape of the *keels*, which are well developed, separated, high on the sides, elongate, spiniform, and tilted upwards so that the dorsal surface is flat or hollow, the degree to which the keels are tilted depending upon the sex and species, the tilting being greater in the male than in the female and greater in the typical species *tarasca* than in *adunca*. Pores normal. *Phallopods*, where known, much like those of *Rhachodesmus*; the basal segment without calcar; the proximal end of the distal segment with a roundish seminal fossa, the distal end with a seminal stile and a large bifid subsidiary branch.

Type, *R. tarasca*, Sauss.

Distribution. Mexico.

I have added *Microrhachis* to the synonymy of *Rhachidomorpha*, because I cannot find any evidence that satisfies me as to the existence of generic characters to distinguish the typical species of the two, namely *tarasca* and *adunca*. *Microrhachis* was based upon the male-characters of the latter; but since the male of the genuine *tarasca* does not appear to have been examined for the particular points presented by *adunca*, there is very little evidence, much less proof, of their generic distinctness. On the other hand, the two species are so much alike in general features, especially in the unusual shape and direction of the keels, that strong presumptive evidence is supplied of the resemblance extending to deeper-seated structures. Attems, however (Mt. Mus. Hamburg, xviii. pp. 85, 95, 1901), records these two species, namely *R. tarasca* and *R. adunca*, from Espirito Santo in Brazil; and, as the result of his examination of the specimens so identified, reduced *Rhachidomorpha* to a subgeneric synonym of *Leptodesmus*. This conclusion is opposed to that of Carl, who had the opportunity of examining the type of *R. adunca*, for which he wrongly retained the