

nearly horizontal keels. *Keels* of segments horizontal, with rounded anterior angle and with posterior angle backwards to the 14th or 15th segment rounded, behind that point angular and lightly produced posteriorly. *Pores* normal in number, the area round them more or less distinctly thickened. *Dorsal area* flattish or vaulted, without transverse groove. *Caudal process* of anal segment conical; *anal sternal plate* triangular, with two small bristle-bearing tubercles. *Sternal areas* wider than long. *Phallopods* without coxal calcar; second segment long and strong, branched distally, bearing on the inner side a wide distally open seminal fossa.

Type, *N. sumichrasti*, Humb. & Sauss.

*Distribution.* Central America.

This genus, known to me only from figures and description, is nearly allied to *Acutangulus*, and the two may be found to intergrade through such forms as *N. vermiformis* and *N. orizabæ*, in which the structure of the phallopods is unknown.

The four species here referred to *Neoleptodesmus* seem to be separable by the following features:—

- a. Body attenuated in front, the 1st segment being narrower than the 3rd. . . . *vermiformis*.
- a<sup>1</sup>. Body as wide in front as in the middle, the 1st segment as wide as the succeeding ones.
- b. Pores not borne upon definite button-shaped or tuberculiform excrescences.
- c. Keels very small and linear, with posterior angles rectangular . . . . *orizabæ*.
- c<sup>1</sup>. Keels comparatively large, with the anterior and posterior angles widely rounded; (phallopod nearly straight, its median branch but little expanded apically) . . . . . *sumichrasti*.
- b<sup>1</sup>. Pores borne upon distinct tuberculiform excrescences; (phallopod arcuate, its median branch much expanded at the distal end) . . . . . *aztecus*.

### 1. *Neoleptodesmus aztecus*.

*Polydesmus (Leptodesmus) aztecus*, Sauss. Linn. Ent. xiii. p. 324 (1859)<sup>1</sup>; Mém. Soc. Phys. Genève, xv. p. 301, t. 1. fig. 5 (1860)<sup>2</sup>.

*Polydesmus (Oxyurus) aztecus*, Sauss. & Humb. Miss. Sci. Mex., Myr. p. 160 (1872)<sup>3</sup>.

*Colour* whitish. *Segments* smooth and shining. *Body* cylindrical, slender, and elongate, the keels of the mid-region of the body widely separated on each side. *First tergal plate* as wide as those of the rest of the body, with rounded angles and finely bordered. *Keels* of segments 2 to 4 sloping and directed slightly forwards; the following keels very short, almost as in *Strongylosoma*, rounded, bordered, and ending laterally in small prominences bearing the pores; on the 19th segment the keels are represented by small backwardly-directed tooth-like processes. *Caudal process* of anal segment slightly down-bent apically; *sternal plate* triangular.

♂. *Keels* larger, higher on the sides, and horizontal; the pore-area more markedly tuberculiform. *Phallopods* with distal segment lightly arcuate, the inferior edge convex and hairy, the upper concave and smooth, ending in three processes—a median large, apically laminate and compressed, with sinuously rounded edge, which carries the seminal duct, and a shorter one on each side, the inner of the two narrowed and pointed, with two small teeth above, the outer more bluntly rounded, but with a short angular process above.

Length, ♀, 30 millim., width 5.

„ ♂, 45 „ „ ?

*Hab.* MEXICO<sup>3</sup>, plateau of Puebla, Peak of Orizaba, and Volcan de Tuxtla<sup>1 2</sup>.