

forming a sheath for the principal branch or seminal stile; tracheal rods very long, slender, and cylindrical. Socket or cavity of phallopods small, irregularly, transversely elliptical.

Type, *Z. cæruleus*.

Distribution. Mexico.

In the shape of the anal sternal plate, the small size and structure of its phallopods, and in the small size of the cavity into which they are partially at all events retractile, this new genus shows marked resemblance to the two species described above as *Pammicrophallus ornatus* and *P. pictus*. Generic differences between them subsist, however, in the large size of the keels, which are depressed and overlap throughout the length of the body, in the deeply angular and bitubercular posterior margins of the sternal areas, and in the comparative shortness of the sixth segment and the greater length of the fourth and fifth segments of the legs.

1. *Zeuctodesmus cæruleus*, sp. n. (Tab. XIV. figg. 5–5j.)

Colour (in alcohol) a paler or darker Prussian-blue, with a yellow patch upon the upper side of the keels; head and antennæ blackish; labrum, legs, and sterna ferruginous, the legs sometimes greenish.

Head smooth. *Antennæ* shortly hairy. *Dorsal surface* smooth; lateral surface of segments granular. *Sterna* and *legs* thickly hairy. *Phallopods* with distal segment subcylindrical, terminating in two diverging branches, an outer and an inner—the inner longer and stouter, directed obliquely forwards; the outer thinner, more pointed, and projecting downwards; the segment somewhat sharply angled at the base of these two processes in front.

Length, ♀, 27 millim., width 7.5.

„ ♂, 25 „ „ 7.

Hab. MEXICO, Amula in Guerrero 6000 feet (*H. H. Smith*).

Subfam. *XYSTODESMINÆ*.

Xystodesmidæ, Cook, Ann. N. York Acad. Sci. ix. p. 5 (1895).

The only character known to me by which the genera referred by Cook to the family Xystodesmidæ can be distinguished from the genera constituting the Chelodesmidæ of that author is the presence of a spine projecting from the distal end of the second segment of the legs. It appears to me that no more than subfamily rank should be accorded to this character.

The Central-American genera have characteristically formed biramous *phallopods*. The principal or seminal branch lies in the same line as the long axis of the proximal portion of the femoro-tibial segment and is much longer than the auxiliary or accessory branch. It is generally more or less curved, is hairy in its proximal and smooth in its distal half, a longer sensory seta marking the origin of the smooth portion on the inner side. The auxiliary branch rises not far from the base of the main portion of the segment on its upper side and is directed forwards, or forwards and upwards. It varies in length and is not uncommonly spiniform. On the inner aspect of the proximal portion of the segment there is a deep groove, overhung below by bristles, which traverses the segment up to the concavity formed by the point of origin of the two branches. In the posterior or proximal end of this groove the distal extremity of the coxal calcar lies. The groove is the same as that found in the Rhachodesminæ, in which, however, the coxal calcar is absent.

The phallopod forcibly recalls that of some of the species of *Sphæriodesmus* and suggests kinship between the genera.

The name Xystodesminæ is derived from *Xystodesmus*, a generic term proposed by Cook for the Japanese species described by Peters as *Fontaria martensii*.