

In this species the thorax becomes broader from the apex to the base; the sides are sinuate so as to form three obscure angles between the front and the hind angle; the latter is remarkably acute, and behind it is a very abruptly defined excision. The sculpture is coarse.

Only one example was procured; it is apparently a female and is not in very good condition; the terminal joint of the antennæ is elongate and appears to be a little paler than the others.

Subfam. *OMALIINÆ*.

OMALIUM.

Omalium, Gravenhorst, Col. Micr. p. 111 (1802); Erichson, Gen. et Spec. Staph. p. 871 (1840).

Homalium, Gemminger & Harold, Cat. Col. ii. p. 665; Fauvel, Notices ent. vii. p. 41.

This genus, taken in the larger sense of the Munich Catalogue, includes about 120 species, most of them European; Fauvel (*t. c.*), however, records 23 North-American species. Many genera have been proposed for the European species, but these it would not be possible to accept at present, as they are based on very slight characters and on an examination of only a portion of even the European forms.

As yet our region has produced only eight or nine extremely obscure species (which may perhaps ultimately form a genus allied to *Anthobium* as well as to *Omalium*), and Tropical South America has so far only a single equally obscure representative. Thus as we have no other genera of the subfamily to record, and as North America is very rich in this subfamily, it is evident that we have here a striking contrast between our region and that of North America. It may be worth while to mention that of our eight or nine species, four have been found only in what may be looked on as the alpine parts of our region.

1. *Omalium sordidum*.

Depressum, nigricans, subopacum, parce subobsolete punctatum; antennarum basi pedibusque sordide testaceis; elytris fusco-rufis, marginibus plus minusve argute nigricantibus.

Long. $2\frac{1}{2}$ –3 millim.

Hab. MEXICO, Cordova (*Sallé*); GUATEMALA, Cerro Zunil, Capetillo, Zapote, Carrizal, near the city, San Gerónimo (*Champion*).

Thorax very strongly transverse, without foveæ on the disc, sparingly and indistinctly punctured, twice as broad as long, rounded at the sides; hind angles obtuse. Elytra nearly twice as long as the thorax, rather sparingly and finely punctured; of an obscure reddish colour, usually more dilute on the humeral region, and the hind margins and side margins blackish. The male has the posterior part of the metasternum impressed with a deep groove in the middle, the margins of the groove being plicate; the terminal ventral segment broadly emarginate.