

posterior tibiæ shorter than in the typical species of the genus, the European *S. hemisphærica* (Linn.), in which it is about as long as the first tarsal joint. So far as I have been able to observe, the Central-American species also differ from *S. hemisphærica*, as well as from the North-American *S. tibialis*, Guér., and *S. troberti*, Horn (nec Guér.), in having the sides of the head margined below the eyes. Hitherto, the whole of the saltatorial Dascillids from all parts of the world have, with two exceptions, been referred to the one genus, *Scirtes*, but it is certain that some of them belong to distinct genera; several, as already noticed, are here separated under the name *Ora*, Clark.

Sixty-nine species of *Scirtes* have been described, and many more are now added. *S. suborbiculatus*, *S. pilatei*, and others are extremely variable in colour. I am unable to detect any external sexual characters.

These insects are found in marshy places, on long grass or on various species of *Salix*, and owing to their extreme agility are very difficult to capture.

- a. Prothorax arcuately dilated at the sides, narrowed behind; elytra striped (except in the pale variety); form oblong: length 6 millim. *oblongus*.
- b. Prothorax not dilated at the sides, shorter, and forming almost a continuous outline with the elytra.
 - a'. Elytra deeply emarginate in front; legs very stout, the hind tibiæ bowed inwards; form transversely orbicular, very convex; body black above, the elytra bluish-violaceous, clothed with cinereous hairs *cæruleus*.
 - b'. Elytra not deeply emarginate in front; legs more slender, the hind tibiæ straighter; form less convex.
 - a''. Form rotundate or rotundate-oval, moderately convex; pubescence fine and sparse: length 3-4 millim.
 - a'''. Elytra rather coarsely punctate; body rufo-testaceous, the elytra in the typical form with more than the apical half black *rotundatus*.
 - b'''. Elytra finely and more sparsely punctate; body brownish, the prothorax reddish-yellow, paler at the sides, the elytra usually with the sutural, basal, and lateral margins infusate *circumcinctus*.
 - c'''. Elytra finely, moderately closely punctate; body black or piceous, the prothorax with the sides broadly flavous or entirely reddish-yellow *thoracicus*.
 - b''. Form broadly oval or broadly elliptic, moderately convex.
 - d'''. Antennæ stout and moderately long, black, the third joint shorter than the second; body black, the prothorax and a shoulder-spot on each elytron rufo-testaceous: length 4 millim. *scapularis*.
 - e'''. Antennæ slender, long or moderately long.
 - a⁴. Third antennal joint as long as or not much shorter than the second.
 - a⁵. Pubescence rather long and coarse; prothorax narrowing from the base; elytra moderately closely and not very finely punctate; body varying in colour from piceous to rufo-testaceous: length 3-4½ millim. *pilatei*.