

CYPHON.

Cyphon, Paykull, Fauna Suecica, ii. p. 117 (1799); Jacquelin Duval, Gen. Col. Europ. iii. p. 151; Tournier, Dascillides du Bassin Léman, p. 48; Horn, Trans. Am. Ent. Soc. viii. p. 105.

A very widely distributed genus, both in the northern and southern hemispheres, being particularly numerous in species in New Zealand, but apparently poorly represented within the tropics. Several of the Central American forms have the elytra foveate or impressed in the females and normal in the males. These insects are found upon low plants in marshy places.

- a.* Antennæ with joint 3 very small, much shorter than 2; head much narrower than the prothorax, the eyes rounded; elytra usually with more or less distinct raised lines on the disc or at the sides, at least in the female, and with depressions or foveæ, and also more or less truncate at the apex, in this sex; body elongate, oblong-oval, or elliptic (♀), oval (♂).
- a'*. Prothorax distinctly explanate at the sides; each elytron (♀) with a very deep pyriform impression at the apex *bifoveolatus*.
- b'*. Prothorax not or very slightly explanate at the sides.
- a''*. Body elongate (♀): (♂ unknown).
- a'''*. Each elytron (♀) with two deep foveæ—one at the base and the other at the apex *quadrifoveolatus*.
- b'''*. Each elytron (♀) with a single deep fovea at the apex *parallelus*.
- b''*. Body elliptic (♀).
- c'''*. Antennæ slender: (♂ unknown).
- a⁴*. Each elytron (♀) with two large shallow depressions—one at the base and the other at one-third from the apex; the apex not abruptly truncate *impressipennis*.
- b⁴*. Each elytron (♀) with two depressions—one at the base, foveiform and rather deep, the other large and shallow, at one-third from the apex; the apex abruptly truncate *truncatus*.
- d'''*. Antennæ stouter: (body oval, ♂) (♀ unknown). *atratus**.
- b.* Antennæ with joints 2 and 3 subequal in length, or 3 very little shorter than 2; head much narrower than the prothorax, the eyes rounded; elytra without raised lines or impressions.
- c'*. Elytral punctuation fine: colour variable; antennæ more or less infusate, at least at the tip *variabilis*.
- Elytral punctuation coarser: colour uniform reddish-ochraceous; antennæ entirely testaceous *guatemalensis*.
- c.* Antennæ with joint 3 elongate, much longer than 2; head nearly as wide as the prothorax, the eyes very large and oval *ampliceps*.

1. *Cyphon bifoveolatus*. (Tab. XXVII. fig. 7, elytron, ♀.)

♀. Oblong-oval, depressed, shining, finely pubescent; nigro-piceous or piceous, the front of the head and the lateral margins of the prothorax testaceous, the legs and antennæ testaceous, the latter sometimes infus-

* Perhaps wrongly placed here, the female being unknown.