

PLATEROS.

Plateros, Bourgeois, Comptes-rendus, Soc. Ent. Belg. 1879, p. 16; Waterh. Ill. Typical Col. B. M. i. p. 25 (1879).

This genus, in the wide sense given to it by Mr. Waterhouse, is distributed over nearly all the world. I have a species from Lake Nyassa, in Africa, which does not differ essentially from the species from Asia attributed to it by him. It would be very difficult to point out characters which would separate the Eastern species into a homogeneous group. The species here treated agree in having the antennæ simply serrate in both sexes, the thorax rounded in front, the base bisinuate, often notched in the centre, with acute, somewhat depressed hind angles, the disk carinate, or a little raised in front and channelled behind, and the elytra with about ten rows of closely packed punctures, the alternate interstices being rather more costate than the others.

1. ***Plateros seminiger***. (Tab. II. fig. 15, ♀.)

Niger, prothorace elytrisque a basi pone medium aurantiacis; his pube brevi vestitis, lineis quatuor elevatis, intervallis seriebus duplicibus punctorum, sutura basi nigra; illo vitta mediana æqualiter lata nigra, antice indistincte carinato, postice canaliculato. Long. 13–19 millim. ♂ ♀.

Hab. MEXICO, Cordova, Santécomapan (*Sallé*).

The thorax narrowed from the base, with acute hind angles, the central black vitta, and suture black at the base, and the brick-red or orange elytra with rather more than the apical third black, render this an easy species to recognize among its congeners. The elytra of this and cognate species are described as having *nine* costate nervures; but they are more correctly crenate striate, with the alternate interstices raised.

This species is known in French collections by the name I have adopted; it is also sometimes called "*micheli*, Petit;" but I cannot find that either name has ever been published. I have only seen it from Mexico as yet.

2. ***Plateros bourgeoisi***. (Tab. I. fig. 20 ♀, II. fig. 10 ♂.)

Ater, prothoracis lateribus, disci carinula antica et canaliculo postico, elytrorumque humeris late rubris; his lineis quatuor elevatis, intervallis biareolatis. Long. 8–12 millim. ♂ ♀.

Hab. BRITISH HONDURAS, river Sarstoon (*Blancaneaux*); GUATEMALA (*Sallé*), Capetillo, Dueñas (*Champion*).

The body and appendages are deep black, except that in some specimens the anterior and middle coxæ, trochanters, and a small pectoral space is pale. The antennæ are broadly but not acutely serrate; and there is no important difference between the sexes. The abdominal structure is normal, the seventh segment in the male being deeply cut out; the apical one in the female bears a very minute notch. The disk of the thorax is black and shining; but the carina and the channel are both yellow, the former well marked; and the disk is slightly rugose on each side of it.