

strongly crenulate near the base, closely tuberculate above, the tubercles crowded together and only separated by fine yellowish-white veins or lines, the posterior angles and sides of the thorax margined with yellowish white; elytra short and very convex, rounded at the sides, closely covered with flattened black tubercles arranged thus—a sutural row regular small, a row smaller irregular, two rows very large, a row a little smaller, and a marginal row about same size, between these irregular rows are numerous other small tubercles of the size of those of the sutural row, the spaces between the tubercles filled up with a fine network of yellowish-white colour, shoulders not very prominent, apex quadrituberculate. Beneath black, margins of thorax, meso- and metasternum, and second and third ventral segments marked with yellowish white, flanks of prothorax and elytra closely and coarsely tuberculate, the rest (ventral segments excepted) more or less rough or tuberculate, ventral callosity deeply emarginate in front.

Length 18–27 millim.

Hab. MEXICO, Parada, Las Peras (*Sallé*), Oaxaca (*coll. F. Bates*).

Closely allied to, and probably only a form of, the preceding species (*Z. nervosus*, Sol.); shorter and more convex, the thorax and elytra more closely tuberculate, and the tubercles, though more numerous, more distinct one from another. This species bears the name of *compactus*, Sallé, in the Sallé collection, the name I have adopted.

NOSODERMA.

Nosoderma, Solier, Ann. Soc. Ent. Fr. x. p. 31, t. 2. f. 1–3 (1841).

Homaloderes, Sol. loc. cit. iii. p. 502, nota.

This genus is probably confined to the Neotropical Region, ranging from Mexico to Brazil, and occurring also in the West Indies; it is well represented in Central America, whence three or four species have been described; one species is found in Brazil, one in Colombia, and one in Cuba; a number of additional species (about half of which are known in collections) are described here. *Nosoderma*, like *Zopherus*, has its head quarters in Central America, though not occurring north of Mexico, where it is replaced by the closely allied genera *Phellopsis*, *Noserus*, and *Phlaodes*. Allied forms, probably generically distinct, are found in Japan, Siberia, and East Africa; and also (*Zopherosis*) in New South Wales. These insects are difficult to describe in a satisfactory manner; like certain Asidæ the depressions of the upper surface are often filled up with earthy matter, thus disguising the sculpture, and good differential external sexual characters are apparently wanting.

The different species are found under loose bark in the forests, usually at high elevations, and often in very dark damp places; also upon fungoid growths attached to the bark of old stumps or dead standing trees, upon which they remain apparently immovable, and so much do they assimilate the surface upon which they are resting that it is often very difficult to distinguish them.

1. *Nosoderma æquale*. (Tab. II. fig. 14.)

Elongate, depressed, dull black. Head almost smooth; prothorax much longer than broad, widest about the middle, sides rounded and very slightly narrowed at base and in front, base truncate, and as wide as the