

HOPLOCOPTURUS.

Hoplocopturus, Heller, Abhandl. Mus. Dresden, no. 11, pp. 4, 50, tab. fig. 4 (1895).

Under this genus, the type of which is *Copturus armatus*, Boh., are placed various species agreeing in the following characters * :—

Mesosternum (as in *Mnemynurus*) flattened, declivous, with a shallow transverse depression limited anteriorly by an arcuate ridge (reduced to two short carinæ in *H. costatipennis*). Metasternum flattened (*H. leptopus*, &c.), hollowed, or foveate between the middle coxæ (*H. elegans*). Rostrum not reaching beyond the middle of the metasternum. Joint 2 of the funiculus elongate. Posterior femora extending beyond the apex of the abdomen (shorter in *H. elegans* and *H. densus*), carinate or not externally, the inner apical lamella spiniform or acutely produced.

Hoplocopturus is connected with *Mnemynurus* by intermediate forms, and it can only be separated therefrom by the shorter rostrum. The arcuate ridge on the mesosternum distinguishes it from *Copturus*. The Central-American forms may be grouped thus:—

- a. Rostrum reaching the middle of the metasternum ; femora unidentate . . . Species 1, 2.
- b. Rostrum not (except in *H. leptopus*, ♀) reaching the middle of the metasternum.
 - a'. Femora bidentate ; metasternum hollowed between the middle coxæ . . . Species 3–6.
 - b'. Femora unidentate.
 - a². Head rather broad, with very large eyes : body oblong-rhomboidal or elliptic.
 - a³. Metasternum hollowed between the middle coxæ.
 - a⁴. Elytra costate ; the arcuate mesosternal carina reduced to two short ridges Species 7.
 - b⁴. Elytra not costate ; the arcuate mesosternal carina complete . . . Species 8, 9.
 - b³. Metasternum foveate between the middle coxæ : species very small . . . Species 10–13.
 - b². Head smaller, the eyes not so large ; metasternum hollowed or flattened between the middle coxæ : body subrhomboidal Species 14, 15.

1. *Hoplocopturus javeti*, sp. n. (Tab. IV. figg. 3, 3 a.)

Copturus javeti, Jekel, in litt.

Oblong-rhomboidal, shining, piceous or rufo-piceous, the prothorax sometimes rufous, the antennæ ferruginous ; the vestiture sparse, fine on the elytra, coarser on the prothorax, ochreous or yellowish-white, condensed into a line around the eyes, a line along the anterior margin of the prothorax, and a sinuous fascia towards its base, the latter extending down the median lobe, the elytra with various interrupted denser yellowish lines on the basal half and a narrow whitish sutural stripe ; the under surface, a broad bare space along the middle of the abdomen excepted, thickly clothed with coarse, oval, whitish scales, the vestiture of the legs also white. Eyes very large, narrowly separated. Rostrum reaching to about the middle of the metasternum, rugulose and sharply carinate at the base. Joint 2 of the funiculus elongate, rather longer than 3 and 4 united, the latter subequal in length, each as long as 1, 5–7 short. Prothorax somewhat convex, subconical, a little broader than long, with rounded ocular lobes ; closely, coarsely punctate, the punctures transverse and here and there confluent, a narrow space at the base densely, finely punctate, the disc subcarinate. Scutellum small, tuberculiform. Elytra rapidly

* *Copturus furfuraceus* (Germ.) is included in *Hoplocopturus* by Heller, but it wants the transverse depression at the base of the mesosternum.