

at about the basal third. Prothorax obliquely narrowed from the base, feebly constricted in front; densely, coarsely umbilicate-punctate. Elytra rather short, narrowly punctate-striate, the interstices broad, flat, transversely rugose, closely uniseriate-punctate. Beneath densely, the abdomen more shallowly, umbilicate-punctate.

Length  $2\frac{3}{4}$ – $2\frac{4}{5}$ , breadth  $1\frac{1}{3}$ – $1\frac{2}{5}$  millim. (♀.)

*Hab.* PANAMA, Bugaba (*Champion*), Tabernilla, Canal zone (*Busck, in U.S. Nat. Mus.*).

Two females. It is possible that the male may have a still longer antennal club. The close umbilicate puncturing of the under surface is a striking character in this insect.

### BARIS.

*Baris*, Germar, Ins. Spec. Nov. p. 197 (1824) (part.); Casey, Ann. N. York Acad. Sci. vi. pp. 465, 469.

*Baridius*, Schönherr, Gen. Curc. iii. p. 643 (1836) (part.).

I follow Casey in restricting the genus *Baris*, Germ. (type, *timida*, Rossi) (= *Baridius*, Schönh., type *viridanus*, Boh.), for the numerous American species with the base of the antennal club more or less shining and sparsely pilose, the rostrum short and stout, the prosternum unimpressed or indefinitely sulcate (except in *B. quadratipennis* and *B. prodita*), and the pygidium exposed, either ventrally or dorsally. This definition, however, as stated by Casey, will not strictly apply to many of the Palæarctic species at present referred to it. As thus limited, *Baris* includes about fifty perfectly homogeneous forms from N. America, and many others from Central and S. America, though it is not so well represented in our region as *Pseudobaris*, Lec. *B. quadratipennis* and *B. prodita* have the base of the antennal club shining and the prosternum more or less sulcate (thus combining the characters of *Baris* and *Pseudobaris*), the prothorax tubulate, &c., and they will probably have to be removed eventually. The Nicaraguan *B. fervida* and its allies are large, metallic, coarsely punctured, peculiar forms restricted to Tropical America. *B. strenua*, *B. striata*, *B. sulcipennis*, *B. sinuatirostris*, &c., are characteristic N.-American or Mexican Barids, some of which extend down the central plateau to Guatemala. *B. ærea* and the small metallic Tropical-American insects related to it are so variable and so imperfectly segregated, that I am unable to come to any definite conclusion concerning them, though hundreds of specimens (including long series from many localities) have been studied for the purpose. The males of the Central-American forms have the posterior portion of the metasternum and the first ventral segment more or less excavate or flattened in the middle, and the apical margin of the fifth segment sometimes thickened or sublamellate in the centre, and the prominence limited on each side by a semicircular or shallow excision. The pygidium, too, in that sex is often separated from the last dorsal segment by a sharply defined transverse suture or ridge (*B. durangoana*, *B. zapotensis*, *B. ærea*, &c.); but this suture is sometimes wanting in certain