

RHYNCHOPHORUS.

Rhynchophorus, Herbst, Käfer, vi. p. 3 (1795); Schönherr, Gen. Curc. iv. p. 816; Lacordaire, Gen. Col. vii. p. 275; Horn, Proc. Am. Phil. Soc. xiii. p. 408; Chevrolat, Ann. Soc. Ent. Fr. 1882, p. 560.

Chevrolat excluded from this genus the Tropical American forms allied to *R. borassi*, F., all of which have the rostrum very stout, more or less dilated at the tip, and non-cristate in the male, and the scutellum small. *R. palmarum*, therefore, is the only true *Rhynchophorus* at present known from within our limits, though it is possible that *R. cruentatus*, F. (= *zimmermanni*, Fähr.)*, of the Southern and Gulf States, may be found to extend southward into Mexico and Guatemala. All the species attack palms: the North-American insect (according to S. V. Summers†) bores into the roots and stocks of the "palmetto," and *R. palmarum* lives upon "Cocos," &c.

1. ***Rhynchophorus palmarum*.** (Tab. IV. figg. 3, ♂; 4, ♀.)

Curculio palmarum, Linn. Mus. Lud. Ulr. p. 42 (1772)¹; Oliv. Ent. v. no. 83, p. 77, t. 2. figg. 16 a (♂), b (♀)².

Rhynchophorus palmarum, Gyll. in Schönh. Gen. Curc. iv. p. 820³; Lec. Proc. Am. Phil. Soc. xv. p. 424 (1876)⁴; Chevr. Ann. Soc. Ent. Fr. 1882, p. 561⁵; Lec. & Horn, Class. Col. N. Am., 2nd edit. p. 506 (1883)⁶; Blandf. Kew Bulletin, 1893, pp. 27-60, t. 1 (larva, &c.)⁷.

Rhynchophorus lanuginosus, Chevr. Le Nat. ii. no. 39, p. 315 (Nov. 1880) (♂)⁸.

Rhynchophorus depressus, Chevr. loc. cit. (♀)⁹.

Hab. NORTH AMERICA, Southern California⁶ west of San Diego⁴.—MEXICO; BRITISH HONDURAS; GUATEMALA; HONDURAS, Ruatan I.; NICARAGUA; COSTA RICA; PANAMA.—SOUTH AMERICA^{1 6} to Brazil³; ANTILLES⁴, Guadeloupe^{8 9}, St. Vincent.

An abundant insect throughout the warmer parts of America. Amongst the various allied forms, the present species may be known by its opaque, velvety-black upper surface, and the somewhat tapering rostrum, which in the male is mesially depressed and furnished with a dense brush of blackish or fulvous erect hairs.

R. lanuginosus, Chevr., is no doubt based upon a large male, and *R. depressus*, Chevr., upon a small female, of *R. palmarum*, greasy specimens of which have a very different appearance from those in clean condition.

The length varies from 23-38 mm.

* There is a specimen of this species, which varies greatly in colour, in the Sharp collection, labelled "Guatemala, Mus. Turner," but the locality requires confirmation.

† Canad. Ent. v. pp. 123, 124 (1873).