

the base. The head in the latter is frequently marked with black between the antennæ. Some of the specimens before me, however, I am not able to refer with certainty to either species, and it is very doubtful whether the present insect is anything but a local variety of *L. plumbea*. Lacordaire gives Bahia as the locality for *L. pudens*.

55 (A). *Lema eremita*.

Rufous, the antennæ (the first joint excepted) black; thorax scarcely constricted at the sides, longer than broad; elytra distinctly depressed below the base, dark blue, strongly punctured, the interstices costate at the apex, the ninth row of punctures interrupted.

Length 2 lines.

Head not constricted behind, impunctate, rufous; the eyes not deeply notched; the labrum black; antennæ half the length of the body, black, the first joint rufous; thorax slightly longer than broad, the sides very little constricted at the middle, the basal sulcation moderately deep, the surface impunctate, rufous; scutellum rufous; elytra with a small but rather deep depression below the base, the punctuation very regular and more deeply impressed anteriorly than towards the apex, the interstices costate behind, the ninth row of punctures interrupted for a short distance below the middle; underside and legs rufous, the tibiæ slightly darker at the apex.

Hab. MEXICO, Tuxtla, San Miguel, Vera Cruz (*Sallé*), Jalapa (*Höge*); BRITISH HONDURAS, R. Hondo (*Blancaneaux*).

It will be comparatively easy to distinguish *L. eremita* from other similarly-coloured species, on account of the feebly constricted thorax and the distinct basal depression of the elytra in connection with the rufous underside and legs. Amongst the small species with blue elytra *L. eremita* differs entirely in the shape of its thorax.

55 (B). *Lema illigeri*.

Rufous, the antennæ (the first two joints excepted) black; thorax subquadrate, slightly constricted; elytra without basal depression, dark metallic blue, strongly punctured, the ninth row slightly interrupted below the middle.

Length 2 lines.

Head impunctate, with a short central fovea, the lateral grooves deep, the eyes but slightly notched; antennæ about half the length of the body, fuscous, the lower two and the base of the third and fourth joints fulvous; thorax scarcely longer than broad, very slightly constricted at the middle, the basal groove distinct in the centre only, the surface impunctate; scutellum fulvous; elytra subcylindrical, without depression below the base, closely and coarsely punctate-striate, the interstices strongly longitudinally costate behind, the ninth row very slightly interrupted below the middle; underside and legs rufous, the apices of the tibiæ and the tarsi stained with fuscous.

Hab. MEXICO, Temax in N. Yucatan (*Gaumer*).

L. illigeri seems closely allied to *L. eremita*, but differs from this and several other similarly-coloured species in the want of an elytral depression below the base and in the not very distinctly interrupted ninth row of punctures. The last-named character, generally so well-marked in the species of *Lema* belonging to the second division of Lacordaire, is here very indistinct (the extent of the interruption being confined to about the length of two punctures); this character, therefore, in connection with the slightly constricted thorax and the deep punctures of the elytra, the latter without