

antennæ. Antennæ pectinate; the length of the branches of the joints gradually diminishing towards the tip; the longest branch, that on the first joint of the flagellum, equal in length to 5 or 6 joints (the number of joints cannot be stated, as the tips of both antennæ are broken off at the same place; it must be over thirty; 28 joints of each antenna are remaining). The posterior margins of the three intermediate abdominal segments are fringed with white hairs. Coxæ and femora black, shining; the four anterior tibiæ and the base of the tarsi have a pale ground-colour, darkened by a dense microscopic appressed pubescence, the rest of the tarsi black; hind tibiæ and tarsi black, the former with a white ring at the base, occupying about one third of their length. Wings black, darker towards the anterior margin and the base; subhyaline streaks in the middle of the marginal, second basal, anal, third, fourth, and fifth posterior cells; the streak on the latter is triangular in shape; venation like the other species of the genus; fourth posterior cell and anal cell closed; anterior cross-vein at about the middle of the distance between the tip of the præfurca and the bifurcation of the third vein. A single female specimen.

N.B.—This is the eleventh species described of this remarkable genus. It has the excision of the inner orbit of the eye, the short basal joints of the antennæ, and the other characteristic marks of *Rhachicerus*. I regret not to have any of the other species at hand for comparison.

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Besides this, the only species of *Xylophagidæ* described from Mexico or Central America is:—

*Rhachicerus nigripalpus*, Loew, Berl. ent. Zeit. 1874, p. 378.—Mexico.

N.B.—In the Berl. ent. Zeit. 1882, pp. 364–366, I have expressed my doubts about the constitution of the family *Xylophagidæ*, and said that after the elimination of the forms foreign to it, the genus *Xylophagus* would have to be brought into closer connection with the *Leptidæ*. I still hold this opinion, although I am not prepared to give it an immediate practical application.

### Fam. ACANTHOMERIDÆ.

Although a good many species of this family have been described, very little has been done in the way of generalizing the characters of the family and of the two genera now composing it—*Acanthomera* and *Rhaphiorhynchus*.

This is so far true that even the sexual characters have not been clearly defined; in several cases the sexes of the same species have been described under different names, and even placed in different genera.

The sexes in this family, as in many other families of *Diptera*, are easily distinguishable by the contiguity or non-contiguity of the eyes and by the shape of the abdomen. The difference in the structure of the antennæ has never been distinctly