

**The Distribution of the Genus *Rhyncogonus* on Oahu
(Col. Curculionidae)**

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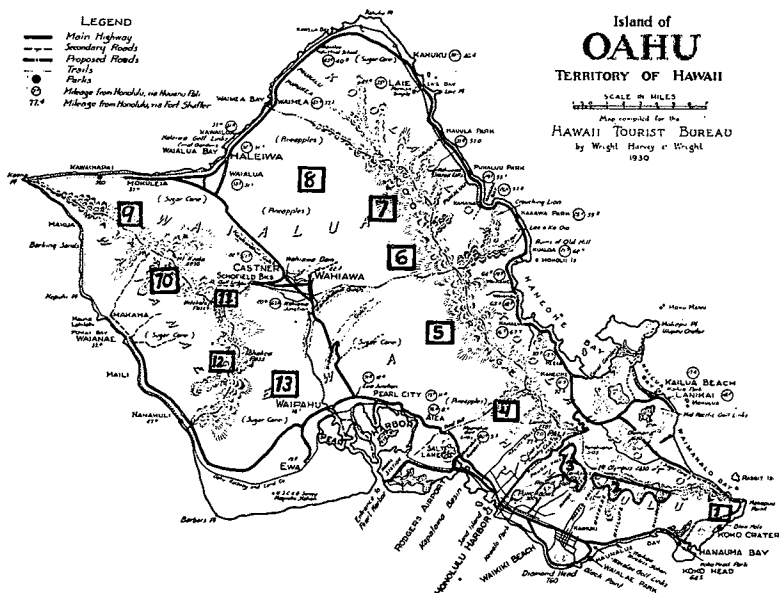
The genus *Rhyncogonus* was erected by Dr. David Sharp in 1885 for *blackburni*, the largest black species on Oahu. At the same time *vestitus* was described from Maui. Since then there have been 10 species described from Oahu and one undescribed;* 10 species from Kauai; 4 species from Molokai; 1 species from Maui; 2 species from Lanai; 1 species from Hawaii; and one each from Laysan, Nihoa, Necker and Wake. A total of 34 species is thus known to occur on the islands of the Hawaiian group. Up to the present only one species is known to occur on more than one island: *simplex* of Molokai has been collected of recent years at Koko Head on Oahu.

These beetles are flightless and the 13 species known to occur on Oahu, each is quite limited in its distribution. Some of them are rare, and have been collected only on the one occasion. Just why they should be rare is not understood. No natural enemies are known for them, except that an egg-parasite (*Eupelmus rhyncogoni* Perkins) has been reared from the eggs of *blackburni* on Mt. Tantalus, and Dr. Perkins found *Rhyncogonus* beetles in the stomach of the native thrush (*Phaeornis palmeri*) on Kauai. Dr. Perkins says, "*Phaeornis palmeri* is a most successful hunter of *Rhyncogonus*, for in all cases these beetles were found in the bird's stomach, even to the exclusion of all other food, while they have been found in no other bird." (Fauna Hawaiensis, Introduction, p. ~~CXX~~, 1913.)

The distribution of the species on Oahu is shown by the accompanying map.

* *Rhyncogonus welchii* Perkins. Proc. Haw. Ent. Soc., VIII, No. 2, p. 269, 1933. [Ed.].

Proc. Haw. Ent. Soc., VIII, No. 3, July, 1934.



Colonies of *Rhyncogonus* on Oahu. Localities are indicated by the numbers in the squares. The species do not overlap. They are mostly between 1,000 to 2,000 ft. elevation.

No. 1,	<i>Rhyncogonus simplex</i>	Perkins.	Near Mokapu ^{Ma Kapu} and at Koko Head.
" 2,	"	<i>koebelei</i>	" Palolo to Kuliuouu.
" 3,	"	<i>blackburni</i>	Sharp Manoa, Mt. Tantalus and Pauoa.
" 4,	"	<i>mutatus</i>	Perkins Moanalua.
" 5,	"	<i>obsoletus</i>	" Waimano.
" 6,	"	<i>segnis</i>	" Wahiawa.
" 7,	"	<i>freycinetiae</i>	" Helemanu.
" 8,	"	<i>oleae</i>	" Waialua.
" 9,	"	<i>fuscus</i>	" Mokuleia.
" 10,	"	<i>funereus</i>	" Waianae.
" 11,	"	<i>saltus</i>	" Kolekole Pass and Puu Hapapa.
" 12,	"	<i>welchii</i>	" Halona Valley.
" 13,	"	<i>extraneus</i>	" Kunia, about 400 ft. elevation, in cane fields.