

A New Lowland *Neoclytarlus* from Oahu (Coleoptera: Cerambycidae)

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It is well known that most of the endemic insect fauna of the lowlands of the Hawaiian Islands has been exterminated. It is, therefore, of great interest when a new insect is found in the lowlands that represents that bygone fauna. Herewith is presented the description of a new species of Cerambycidae which was collected in an area where no endemic longhorn was considered to exist. This new insect was found near the seashore at the west side of the comparatively arid Koko Head. This area is now almost entirely overgrown with adventitious weeds, shrubs, and trees. There are, however, some patches of the indigenous cotton, *Gossypium tomentosum*, growing in the vicinity. This plant might be the host of the beetle, but this is only conjecture, for there may be some other remnants of the native flora persisting there.

In 1919, Mr. J. C. Bridwell found a new *Neoclytarlus* on Ewa Coral Plain, Oahu, in what I would call an "ecological island" within that area. There, on an endemic species of *Euphorbia*, in an area evidently so arid that the destructive ant *Pheidole megacephala* could not exist, Bridwell found another relic of the lowland coleopterous fauna still persisting but with a greatly restricted range and subject to extermination by a slight change in its environment.

These few discoveries that turn up from time to time serve as indices to the former extent of the endemic forests of our islands and show that without a doubt they continued from the tops of the mountains to the seashore.

Neoclytarlus superstes, new species.

Female.—Body dark brown to piceous black, elytral disk diluted with yellow in the basal fourth or fifth, the appendages paler than the body; cephalic clothing pale yellowish white; antennae yellowish brown with the apices of at least the first five segments darker, pubescence with a golden glint; the coarser prothoracic pubescence pale yellowish white, condensed in a lateral longitudinal vitta as broad as the apex of the first antennal segment, the top edge of which runs from the level of the top of the eye to about the middle of the elytral humerus, the disk with a broad vitta of similarly colored, rather loosely placed pubescence about as broad as the length of the second and third antennal segments together but with the median line less densely clothed and the disk therefore appearing to have a vitta on either side of the median line when viewed with the unaided eyes; elytra clothed with coarser pale yellowish white pubescence and finer, inconspicuous black pubescence, the areas of black pubescence appearing as bare areas surrounded by the pale pubescence, each elytron with a scattering of pale pubescence at the base between the humerus and the suture, thence appearing bare to about

the basal third, thence densely clothed with white pubescence to the middle, thence continued as a sutural band about as broad or broader than the lateral prothoracic vitta to the apical third, the pale pubescence thence expanded to the sides at the apical third and continued to the apex, thus leaving a dark, apparently bare lateral area between the middle and apical third, the submedian expansion of the pale pubescent area not reaching the side margin of the elytron, but separated from it by a dark area about as broad as the pale sutural area between the submedian and caudal expansions of the pale pubescence, the pale areas spotted with small patches of dark setae; legs without condensed areas of pubescence, with the shafts of the femora yellowish and much paler than their dark brown clubs, tibiae yellow at the base, but gradually becoming dark brown distally, tarsi dark brown; sternum with the pro- and mesosternum rather sparsely clothed with fine, pale, hairlike setae, the mesosternal side pieces without any conspicuous pale patches, rather sparsely clothed with hairlike setae with a golden glint excepting a few scattered, coarser, white setae at the apex of the mesepisternum; metasternum with condensed, but not very dense, and not entirely clothed, with coarse white pubescence on the sides to about the breadth of the episternum from the episternal suture, metasternum with a patch of dense, matted coarse white pubescence covering somewhat more than the apical third, otherwise with short, prostrate, fine, dark setae with a golden glint; venter with the disks of the segments with long scattered, hairlike, pale setae, ventrite one bare at the sides, ventrites two, three, and four densely clothed with coarse white pubescence on the sides.

Head with the front with the median line at least partly subcarinate, but distinctly impressed behind, the pubescence made up of setae only, and this rather evenly distributed and radiating from the median line; crown with the median line mostly obscured, the pubescence dense, but shorter and more irregular than that on the front. *Antennae* with the lengths of the segments as follows: (1, exclusive of the basal bulb, 1.8) (2, 0.6) (3, 2.0) (4, 2.1) (5, 1.8) (6, 1.4) (7, 1.1) (8, 1.0) (9, 1.0) (10, 0.8) (11, 1.0). *Prothorax* slightly longer than broad (4.5:4.2), collar-like at the base, thence rather evenly arcuate to the apex, broadest behind the middle; the posterior callous hardly elevated, but marked by two well-developed, well-elevated, polished, subequal transverse carinae, the distance between the carinae as long as the apical breadth of the first antennal segment and about half as great as the length of a carina, the anterior callous well developed and terminating in a single, well-developed, polished transverse carina, with only a feeble trace of a lateral callosity in line with the basal carina of the posterior median callous, otherwise evenly convex; puncturation coarse and very dense throughout excepting an impunctuate, shallowly depressed area at the middle of the side at the lower edge of the lateral pubescent vitta. *Elytra* about three and one half times as long as the prothorax; densely and roughly punctate throughout. *Legs* with the club of the hind femora about five sixths as long as the shaft, about two and one half times as broad at its broadest part as the diameter of the middle of the shaft. *Venter* punctate only at the origins of the setae; intercoxal process of the first ventrite simple, nipple-like, not grooved nor divided, as broad as the base of the third antennal segment. Length to the apices of the elytra 10.5 mm.; breadth 2.75 mm.

Oahu, Hawaiian Islands. Holotype, a female collected by Miss Katherine Faus at her home on the beach at Maunaloa on the Honolulu side of Koko Head about December 20, 1938, in Bishop Museum.

This species is perhaps most closely allied to *Neoclytarius euphorbiae* Bridwell, but can at once be distinguished from that species by the nature and arrangement of its pubescence. The shape of the

prothorax and the arrangement of the median callosities is rather similar to those of *N. euphorbiae*, but that species has the pubescence rather evenly distributed and lacks the vittae of *N. superstes*. The arrangement of the pubescence on the sternum and venter is very different in the two species. The elytra of *N. superstes* appear clothed with grey pubescence to the unaided eyes, and the anterior and posterior dark areas are very distinct and well defined; the posterior dark areas are most distinct and appear as black subovate or subhemispherical black marks.

The specimen was collected by Miss Faus and given to me for identification by her biology teacher, Mr. W. L. Curtis, of Punahou School.