

A New *Rhyncogonus* From Oahu, Hawaii (Coleoptera: Curculionidae)

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Mr. E. J. Ford, Jr., has asked me to describe a new *Rhyncogonus* weevil which he discovered near Mt. Kaala, in the Waianae Mountains of Oahu. It was at first believed that a new species had been discovered, but it appears that the new form is a subspecies of a species heretofore known only from the Koolau Mountains.

Rhyncogonus segnis fordii, new subspecies (figs. 1, 2)

Color: derm almost entirely dark piceous black; vestiture creamy white, setae apically on tibiae and on fourth and fifth ventrites more yellow.

Head with breadth measured between outer sides of eyes subequal to length along median line from posterior edges of eyes to mid point of epistome and subequal to extreme subapical breadth of rostrum; longitudinal dorsal contour, as viewed from side, flattened continuously with dorsum of rostrum from above hind margins of eyes; distance from pronotum to an eye, viewed from above, subequal to length of an eye; interocular area smooth and shiny, punctures larger in the shiny area and longitudinally subconfluent or confluent, thus tending to become strigose; vestiture consisting of prostrate, sharply pointed setae and squamiform setae with a patch of denser, elongate-lanceolate, more scale-like setae along upper margins of eyes, setae on crown directed forward at middle and obliquely forward in the area from behind eyes to near middle of crown, setae along upper margins of eyes directed obliquely backward and those in middle of interocular area directed straight back; setae on sides beneath eyes and to apex of sides of rostrum coarser, denser, more squamiform; eyes broadly rounded, and although obviously interrupting lateral cephalic contours, they are not unusually protuberant.

Rostrum with dorsal contour, puncturation, and vestiture continuous and similar to that of interocular area as far as the end of the dorsal flattened area, thence with a very broad, rather shallow, concave area which diverges from middle to bases of mandibles and encloses the epistomal area, this concave area with derm reticulate and punctures large and contrasting with the more

¹ This research was done at the British Museum (Natural History) during the tenure of a grant from the National Science Foundation, and I wish to express my gratitude to the Museum and to the Foundation.

shiny and less coarsely punctate epistomal area which has its anterior margin emarginate at middle.

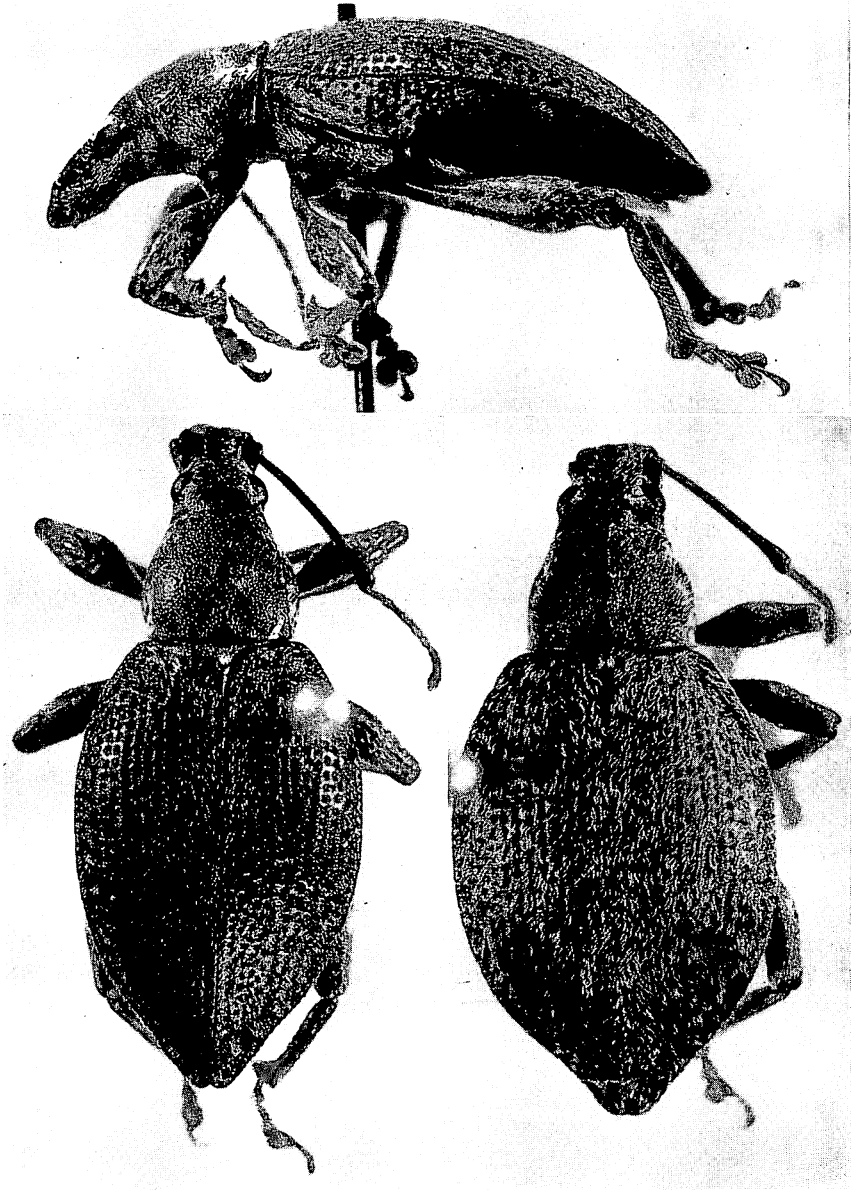
Antennae with scape clothed with long, narrow, finely acuminate, decumbent setae, none of which are squamiform, its apex capable of reaching to middle or basal third of side of pronotum (variable), as long as funicle excluding club; funicle clothed as scape, lengths of segments as follows: (1, measured on longest side, 42 micrometer divisions long) (2, 26) (3, 18 or 19) (4, 17 or 18) (5, 16) (6, 16) (7, 16); club with segments (1, 25) (2, 15) (3, 20), widest near apical part of segment two and there 13 units wide (these measurements taken with scale equaling 40 divisions to one millimeter).

Pronotum slightly transverse (34:30), broadest near middle, basal margin diluted with red, broadly and shallowly emarginate, the emargination stronger in the females examined; anterior margin very slightly and broadly emarginate at middle in females seen, not or hardly impressed in males examined; with a conspicuous and nearly continuous, bare, shiny, median line which is widest at about middle and is somewhat disturbed by, and is slightly setose in, the shallow subbasal depression; disc, excepting the median line, densely and rather coarsely punctate, the punctures tending to become confluent in some places, interspaces reticulate; punctures bearing prostrate, fine, sharply pointed setae, almost all of which are directed backward toward mid line, but the setae in the median subbasal depression are directed straight back, and the lateral margins have a broad band of denser, squamiform setae from humeri of elytra to front margin, thus forming a distinct pale stripe along each side of pronotum.

Scutellum punctate, with apical half bearing a patch of squamae similar to the squamae in the lateral vittae of pronotum.

Elytra shaped as illustrated, three times as long as pronotum; apex moderately conjointly emarginate; thinly clothed with prostrate, subsquamiform, sharply pointed, very narrowly lanceolate setae which are somewhat more conspicuous on the females; intervals five and nine, especially five, a little broader and a little more strongly elevated than the other intervals on disc; interval 13 forming the lateral margin between disc and epipleural zone, costiform and continuous with the extreme lateral interval around the elytral apex; striae shallowly impressed, punctures moderate in size, in most areas separated by two to four times the diameter of a puncture from each other, not bearing setae, arranged in regular strial lines on dorsum; derm alutaceous and rather matt; setae mostly arising from small rounded granules (view from correct angle, or the granules may appear as pits), setae all prostrate or closely decurved on dorsum except on the caudal part of declivity and especially on the costiform interval 13.

FIG. 1. *Rhyncogonus segnis fordii*, n. subsp. Top and left, holotype male, length 12.5 mm., excluding head. Female paratype at lower right, length 12.5 mm., excluding head.



Sternum with the mesosternum and metasternum punctate over all and reticulate; exocoxal area, mesepisternum, and sides of metasternum with vestiture coarser and about like that in pale stripes on pronotum, but mesepimeron with very fine hair and metepisternum nearly nude in anterior half; metasternum concave in male, slightly tumid in female.

Legs with femora clothed with prostrate or decumbent setae and with squamae rather similar to those in the pale thoracic stripes; tibiae with slanting to erect long setae and with some very long hairs scattered on inner edges; hind femora reaching fifth ventrite; femora more strongly clavate in male than female; mucrones well developed on all tibiae in male, but on female smaller on fore tibiae, vestigial on mid tibiae, and obsolescent on hind tibiae.

Venter closely punctured throughout, derm reticulate; first two ventrites tumid in the female, broadly concave in male; entire venter abundantly clothed with fine slanting hair which is denser on ventrite four and much denser and fur-like on ventrite five; suture between first two segments distinct at middle; first ventrite as long or slightly longer along median line than second and third ventrites combined.

Length, including head and rostrum: 13–14 mm.; breadth: 6–7 mm.

Holotype male, allotype female (both to be deposited in Bernice P. Bishop Museum, Honolulu), two male paratypes, and one female paratype collected from *Pelea* in August, 1954, and one male taken in October, 1954, by E. J. Ford, Jr., in the saddle of the ridge joining Mount Kaala and Puu Kawiwi, Waianae Mountains, Oahu, Hawaiian Islands, at about 2,800 feet elevation.

I have given more details than may be necessary to distinguish a subspecies, but I have done so because of the inadequacy of the original description of the typical form.

Rhyncogonus segnis segnis Perkins (PROC. HAW. ENT. SOC. 6(3):466, 1927) is not represented in the British Museum (Natural History), but a female paratype has kindly been sent for study from the Bishop Museum by Dr. J. L. Gressitt. Judging from this one female of *segnis*, it appears that *segnis* may be a more reddish form; it has the third funicular segment distinctly longer than the fourth (23:18) whereas it is subequal to four in *fordi* (18 or 19: 17 or 18). The eyes are more protuberant on *segnis*, and the pronotum is proportionately broader. There also appear to be other differences which are

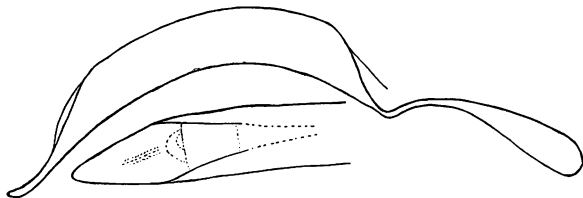


FIG. 2. Aedeagus of *Rhyncogonus segnis fordi*, n. subsp.; lateral view and dorsal view of apical part.

best appreciated by comparing specimens of the two forms. Additional specimens of *segnis* are desired for the study of the range of variation. I am unable to consider that *fordi* is more than a Waianae Mountains subspecific representative of the Koolau Mountains *segnis*.

On Dr. Swezey's map of the distribution of the *Rhyncogonus* of Oahu (PROC. HAW. ENT. SOC. 8(3):528, 1934), this form was found nearest to the locality marked "10" which denotes the supposed type locality of *Rhyncogonus funereus* Perkins, but *funereus* is a very distinct species.

I have the pleasure to dedicate this new form to Mr. E. J. Ford, Jr., in recognition of his energetic collecting in Hawaii.