

A New *Oodemas* from Oahu (Coleoptera, Curculionidae)

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The following new Oahuan *Oodemas* (Cossoninae) is one of the handsomest of the genus. Because of its purplish coloration and rather large size it may readily be recognized among the Oahuan species.

Dr. Perkins' key to the Oahuan species of *Oodemas* on page 78, vol. 9, no. 1 of these "Proceedings" (1935), may be amended to include this species as follows: For 6 in dichotomy 5 read 5a, then insert the following lines:

- 5a. Color distinctly purplish *purpureum*
 Color aeneus, not at all purplish 6

Oodemas purpureum, new species.

Derm dark burnished purplish bronze; the prothorax, head and rostrum usually slightly darker and less purplish than the elytra.

Head reticulate, finely and rather sparsely punctate, the punctures becoming more numerous distally; eyes convex, about as broad as long. *Rostrum* subparallel-sided, not expanded distally, about one third longer than the distance between the eyes, usually, but not always, dorsally, longitudinally sinuate with the head; punctures rather small, tending to be longitudinally confluent; epistome rather deeply emarginate in the middle; with a few long, golden setae at apex, otherwise evidently without setae. *Antennae* inserted at the middle of rostrum in male, slightly behind middle in female; scape reaching to slightly behind the posterior margin of eye; funicle with first segment almost as long as second plus half of third, two as long as three plus half of four, three and four subequal in length, or four appearing very slightly longer than three, five somewhat shorter than four or six, six as long as seven but slightly narrower; club almost twice as long as broad, as long as the preceding five segments together. *Prothorax* about one sixth broader than long (range: 2.6:2.3-3.1:2.7), conical, basal margin rather strongly convex, almost straightly narrowed on the sides, but usually rather feebly impressed beyond the middle and rarely near the base, longitudinal dorsal outline evenly convex, subcontinuous with the elytra; rather coarsely reticulate, finely and evenly punctate, punctures separated by interstices somewhat broader than the diameters of the punctures, the punctures as broad as two or three reticulations. *Elytra* elongate-oval, about five eighths as broad as long, roundly or subtriangularly emarginate at the base, almost evenly arcuate on the sides from base to apex; shallowly, vaguely, indefinitely reticulate; discal striae subobsolete or entirely obsolete, marked by rows of shallow punctures that become smaller caudad and minute near the apex, the two or three outside striae well impressed; intervals flat, rather densely, irregularly punctulate, the punctures bearing minute setae. *Legs* with the femora rather slender, evidently impunctate; tibiae compressed, uncus strongly curved; tarsi similar in both sexes, with the first segment slender, as long as third, second segment rather small, but slightly more than half as long as third (4:7), as broad as long, not more than half as broad as the third which is deeply

bilobed, fourth segment slender, inserted at middle of third, as long as second plus third. *Sternum* with the metasternal puncturation but slightly coarser than that on base of first ventrite. *Venter* with first ventrite moderately coarsely and densely punctate near base, punctures smaller behind middle; second ventrite with puncturation similar to that on the apical part of first ventrite; ventrites three and four finely punctate; ventrite five densely and rather finely punctate. Length, excluding the head, 4.2-5.0 mm.; breadth, 2.2-2.5 mm.

Oahu, Hawaiian islands. Holotype female, allotype male stored in Bernice P. Bishop Museum, eight paratypes and one broken specimen collected by me, and 11 paratypes collected by O. H. Swezey a few hundred yards south of Puu Kaaumakua, Koolau Mountains, on the summit trail at 2,500 feet from the dead fronds of *Cibotium menziesii* and *Cibotium chamissoi* on April 28, 1938.

No obvious external characters, in addition to the slight difference in shape and antennal insertion, were found to distinguish the sexes. The sex of the male allotype was ascertained by selecting from the series one of the smaller, more slender specimens and dissecting out the genitalia which are now mounted with the specimen.

This species resembles the Mauian species *Oodemus chryso-dorum* and *O. cupreum*. From *O. chryso-dorum* it may be easily separated by not having the rostrum expanded distally, in addition to numerous other characters. From *O. cupreum* it may be distinguished by its more distinctly purplish color, larger, more elongate-oval body, and by its longer antennal funicle. On this species the club of the antenna is as long as the preceding five segments, but on *O. cupreum* it is as long as the preceding six segments. It cannot be confused with any of the Oahuan species because of its purplish coloration, although, from the description, it is closely allied to *O. williamsi*; which Dr. Perkins says is distinctly aeneous.

The series of specimens collected were found more abundantly in the harder parts of the *Cibotium* fronds toward the apices than in the softer parts near the bases. Although considerable collecting was done on several other plants in the type locality, no specimens were found on anything except *Cibotium*.