

SOME SYNONYMY IN *ORYZAEPHILUS*

(COLEOPTERA: CUCULIIDAE)

Catalogues of beetles list four species of *Oryzaephilus* in America, north of Mexico. One of these was originally described as *Silvanus gossypii* by Chittenden in 1897 (U.S.D.A. Div. Ent. Bull. No. 8 (n.s.): 12, fig. 5). The holotype is in the U. S. National Museum; it was received at "Washington, D. C., in November, 1893, in cotton seed from India." A comparison of that holotype with a large number of specimens of *O. mercator* (Fauvel), 1889, has convinced me that it will easily fall within the range of variation of *mercator*. All the characteristics which Chittenden says are distinctive in *gossypii* occur also in *mercator*. The two names are synonymous (NEW SYNONYMY).

Another name to consider is *O. bicornis*, originally described as *Silvanus bicornis* by Erichson in 1846 (Naturg. Ins. Deutschlands 3, Abt. 1:337). In Europe this form is usually considered a synonym of *surinamensis* (L.) or a variety of it. Its genitalia are identical to those of *surinamensis*. It seems better at present to consider *bicornis* (Erichson) a synonym of *surinamensis* (L.).

The only two species of *Oryzaephilus* in America, north of Mexico, are well-known throughout the world, being common stored grain pests, distributed far and wide by commerce. The Saw-Toothed Grain Beetle is *O. surinamensis* (L.), and the Merchant Grain Beetle is *O. mercator* (Fauvel). They are easily separated morphologically by the temples, that area posterior to the eyes and anterior to the constriction of the neck. In the former species the temples are about two-thirds of the length of the eyes, whereas in the latter they are very short and tubercular in form.

A full morphological comparison of *O. surinamensis* and *O. mercator* was given by Slow in 1958 (Bull. Ent. Res. 49:27-34, 8 figs.), and their biologies were described by Howe in 1956 (Ann. Appl. Biol. 44:341-355, 6 figs.).

To Dr. R. W. Howe, of Slough, Bucks., England, I offer thanks for advice given.

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NOTES ON THE SYNONYMY OF A NORTH AMERICAN ANT

(HYMENOPTERA: FORMICIDAE)

In 1914 Santschi described an ant, *Formica cinerea* var. *canadensis*, from a series of 6 workers and 5 females from Saskatchewan, Canada. In his brief and rather inadequate description Santschi emphasized the black color of the ant, stating that it somewhat resembled *Formica*