

In addition, the new variety is uniformly darker in colour than typical *coriarius* (Clark, no. 10).

Type W. C. C. coll.

Mayr originally described *coriarius* as a species, but later authors have considered it a race of *ruficeps*. It should rank as a species for the following reasons:—There has been a certain amount of confusion among authors, owing to the brevity of Smith's description of *ruficeps*. I have recently examined the type, of which I give a description below, and there is no doubt that Smith's description has led to errors. The shape of the head is quite unlike that of *coriarius*, being somewhat long and only slightly wider in front than behind. Further, the preapical tooth is nearly

Fig. 2.

Fig. 1.

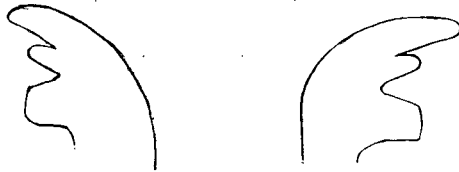


Fig. 1.—Mandible of *O. coriarius*, var. *obscura*, nov.

Fig. 2.—Mandible of *O. coriarius*, Mayr.

as long as the apical, and is not sharply truncate, as in *coriarius* (vide fig. 2). Smith in his description says the teeth are "stout and blunt," which hardly conveys the appearance of the teeth in the type. In fact, Forel, relying on these words, has described a race of *ruficeps*, which he called *acutidens* (Ann. Soc. Ent. Belg. xliv. p. 56, 1900). As a further result of the examination of Smith's type and the discovery of a ♂ major of *acutidens*, the latter will have to rank as a species.

√√ *Odontomachus ruficeps*, Smith. (Fig. 3.)

Type (British Museum).

♀. Length (without mandibles) 12·8 mm.; mandibles 2·2 mm. Length of head 3·7 mm.; width of eyes 2·8 mm.; width at occiput 2·1 mm.

Colour ferruginous.

Mandibles toothed along inner border with 9–10 small teeth. Apical tooth slightly longer than preapical (vide fig. 3).

Head not greatly wider in front than behind.

Spine of node slightly curved backwards. Node in profile straight in front, rounded behind.