

122. **Bruchus tantillus.**

Bruchus tantillus, Motsch. Et. Ent. vii. p. 98¹; Bull. Mosc. 1873, ii. p. 216².

Hab. PANAMA^{1 2}.

There is no description of this insect in the 'Etudes,' but merely a comparison with a new species from Burmah, and in the Bull. Mosc. it is briefly characterized in tabular form; it is probably near to *B. pusillimus*, but the scanty characters mentioned do not accord altogether therewith.

SPERMOPHAGUS.

Spermophagus, Schönherr, Curc. i. p. 102.

Zabrotes, Horn, Tr. Am. Ent. Soc. xii. 1885, p. 156.

This is a widely distributed genus, its largest and finest forms being found in the New World. The species are readily distinguished by their possessing two articulated spurs on the hind tibia. Dr. Horn (*loc. sup. cit.*) has recently separated some of the North American species under the name of *Zabrotes*, but this step appears premature. The type of *Spermophagus* is *S. titivilitius*, Boh. Dr. Horn, however, differentiates his *Zabrotes* not from this form, but from *S. robiniaë*, Fabr., but I think it possible from the description of *S. titivilitius* that it may prove to be structurally more similar to Dr. Horn's *Zabrotes* than to *Spermophagus robiniaë*. The minor structural characters in the Bruchidæ are remarkably variable, and the separation of the front coxæ is one of the most variable characters in the family. Another character relied on by the talented American Coleopterist to differentiate the genus from *Spermophagus*, I am not able to confirm; he speaks of the claws as absolutely simple, but in the species of our fauna which I refer with very little doubt to *Zabrotes*, I find that though the claws are minute, yet they are lobed at the base, much as in other Bruchidæ. At present, therefore, the genus can only be accepted as a section of *Spermophagus* containing the European *S. cardui*, and other Eastern forms in addition to the New World species for which it was instituted.

§ 1. *Front coxæ quite contiguous at the tip.* (*Zabrotes.*)

1. **Spermophagus pectoralis.**

Breviter ovalis, parum convexus; pygidio corporeque subtus griseo-pubescentibus; prothorace elytrisque plus minusve vage griseo guttatis; antennis elongatis, gracilibus, subserratis, articulis primo et secundo rufis; pectore medio concavo denseque griseo-pubescente.

Long. 2-2 $\frac{1}{4}$ millim.

Hab. MEXICO, Campêche (*Sallé*); GUATEMALA (*Sallé*), near the city, Dueñas, Zapote, Capetillo, Calderas, San Gerónimo (*Champion*); NICARAGUA, Chinandega (*Sallé*), Chontales (*Janson*); PANAMA, Volcan de Chiriqui 3000 to 4000 feet (*Champion*).

Of very short form, broadest behind. Antennæ long and slender, as long as the thorax and elytra together; second joint more than half as long as the third; joints 5-10 each slender, but with acute inner apical angle. Head and eyes small, the latter minutely faceted. Thorax very short, the sides narrowed and rounded in front, the base oblique