

PIASUS. (To precede the genus *Lactica*, p. 270.)

Body ovate; antennæ robust, the basal joints swollen (♂); thorax transverse, the anterior angles oblique, the base with a deep sinuate transverse groove bounded at the sides by a longitudinal impression; elytra irregularly punctured, their epipleuræ very broad, continued to the apex; tibiæ robust, sulcate, the posterior pair mucronate; claws appendiculate; prosternum narrowly elongate; anterior coxal cavities open.

This genus has most of the characters of *Lactica*, but differs from it in the form of the frontal elevations and carina, and in the shape of the thoracic sulcus; the antennæ in the male are also very pubescent and have their basal joints swollen.

1. *Piasus fulvus*. (Tab. XLIII. fig. 25, ♀.)

Fulvous, the antennæ black (the three basal joints excepted); thorax impunctate; elytra extremely finely and sparingly punctured, the basal portion convex.

♂. The antennæ fimbriate, their basal joints strongly thickened; the first joint of the tarsi dilated.

♀. Antennæ more slender; the elytra with three strongly raised lateral costæ.

Length $1\frac{1}{2}$ – $1\frac{3}{4}$ lines.

♂. Head impunctate, the eyes rather narrow and oblique, the frontal elevations somewhat swollen, scarcely divided, the clypeus strongly raised, deflexed in front; palpi slender, scarcely thickened, the terminal joint very short; antennæ rather narrowly separated at their point of insertion, extending to a little beyond the middle of the elytra, black, the lower three joints fulvous, the third and fourth joints equal, these as well as the basal one thickened towards their apex, all the joints furnished with a fringe of long hairs on their lower edge; thorax twice as broad as long, the sides rounded at the middle, the anterior angles oblique, the posterior ones acute, all furnished with a single seta, the base with a deep transverse sulcus bounded at the sides by a longitudinal groove; scutellum broad; elytra ovate, the basal portion slightly raised, the surface very sparingly and finely punctured.

Hab. MEXICO, Acapulco in Guerrero (*Höge*).

In the females the elytra have three strongly raised costæ, of which the external two are joined below the shoulder. Numerous examples.

LACTICA (p. 270, and Suppl. p. 258).

40. *Lactica vittatipennis*. (Tab. XLIII. fig. 22.)

Piceous, the lower part of the head, the thorax, and legs testaceous; elytra finely punctured, black, with a longitudinal yellowish stripe near the suture extending from the base to near the apex.

Length $1\frac{1}{2}$ line.

Head black on the vertex, the latter impunctate, opaque, with an obscure central ridge, the eyes very large, the lower portion of the face and the clypeus testaceous; antennæ extending to beyond the middle of the elytra, black, pubescent, the fourth joint longer than the third; thorax very short and transverse, nearly three times as broad as long, the sides straight, the anterior angles obliquely thickened, the surface impunctate, with a deep transverse sulcus behind, bounded on either side by an equally deep longitudinal groove; scutellum black; elytra parallel, finely and rather closely punctured, black, with a longitudinal yellowish stripe near the suture, this stripe abbreviated and widened at a short distance from the apex; legs testaceous, the apex of the tibiæ and the tarsi more or less fuscous or black.

Hab. GUATEMALA, Panima in Vera Paz (*Champion*); PANAMA, Volcan de Chiriqui (*Champion*).

This insect resembles greatly in coloration certain species of *Phyllotreta*, *Systema*, and *Pseudoepitrix*.