

STUDIES ON THE FAUNA OF CURAÇAO AND OTHER
CARIBBEAN ISLANDS: No. 47.

ANTHICID BEETLES FROM VENEZUELA, COLOMBIA,
CUBA, AND THE NETHERLANDS ANTILLES

by

F. D. BUCK

(London)

The material of Anthicidae covered in this paper was taken by Prof. H. J. MAC GILLAVRY in 1930 and 1933, when being a student-member of two geological excursions under the leadership of the late Prof. L. M. R. RUTTEN. It comprises ten species, three of which are new to science, viz.

Formicillia gracillipes, from VENEZUELA (Zulia) and CUBA;
Leptaleus albicinctus, from VENEZUELA (Zulia, Trujillo, Táchira);
Anthicus judithi, n.sp., from VENEZUELA (Zulia) and CUBA;
Anthicus laterotuberculatus, n.sp., from ARUBA, CURAÇAO, BONAIRE;
Anthicus macgillavryi, n.sp., from CUBA;
Anthicus punctipennis, from COLOMBIA (Santander del Norte);
Anthicus aequinoctialis, from VENEZUELA (Zulia);
Anthicus teapensis, from VENEZUELA (Zulia, Táchira);
Anthicus vicinus, from COLOMBIA (Santander del Norte) and CUBA;
Anthicus isthmicus, from VENEZUELA (Trujillo).

My thanks are due to C. A. W. JEEKEL of the Zoölogisch Museum, Amsterdam, and the Director of that Museum who made the material available for my study, and to the Directors and staff of the British Museum (Nat. Hist.) for facilities provided.

Formicillia gracillipes Champion

Biol. Centr.-Amer. 4, 2, 1890, p. 220.

VENEZUELA, Encontrados, on the Río Catatumbo (Zulia), 17.VII.1930, 1 ex.
(at light). CUBA, Pinar del Río, 16-29.V.1933, 22 exx.; Hormiguero, 10-28.II.
1933, 4 exx.

Leptaleus albicinctus La Ferté

Monogr. des Anthicidae, 1849, p. 106.

VENEZUELA, Mene Grande, east of the Lago de Maracaibo (Zulia), 23-24.VII. 1930, 2 exx.; bridge of Gomez, north-east of Trujillo (Trujillo), 1.VIII. 1930, 2 exx.; Palo Grande (about 1300 m high), north of San Cristóbal (Táchira), 20.VII.1930.

Anthicus judithi n.sp.

Fig. 33

Elongate; black, shining, glabrous except for outstanding scattered setae.

Head black, shining, broader than long, finely and moderately diffusely punctate on disc, becoming closer and more rugose anteriorly; contracted in front of eyes to labrum; temples parallel, longer than eyes; basal angles rounded; base slightly sinuate. Eyes moderately large and prominent. Antennae moderately long, almost reaching the base of the pronotum (in fig. 33 they are strongly deflexed), black, except segments 1 and 2 which are rufous; segment 1 stout and elongate; 2 elongate, narrower and only half as long as one; 3 about as broad as two and longer; 4-10 becoming very slightly progressively shorter and broader until 10 is transverse; 11 elongate, pointed at apex. Palpi black; segment 1 elongate; penultimate segment short; apical segment securiforme with apical edge lighter. Pronotum elongate, in the approximate proportion of 5:3, narrower than the head; black; longitudinally strigose; anterior portion globose with a short, broad, collar; globose anterior part separated from the basal part by lateral furrows which, viewed from the sides are oblique and deep; base broadened from the furrows to the basal angles which are rounded; scattered outstanding setae, particularly anteriorly. Scutellum small. Elytra black, shining; elongate, $\frac{3}{4}$ as long again as broad, moderately convex, at the humeri, which are rounded, a little broader than the head behind the eyes, parallel behind the humeri as far as the subhumeral depression, thence evenly rounded to just behind the middle and then evenly, arcuately rounded to the apex; subhumeral depression deep and broad, extending almost right across the elytra; anterior to this and just inside the humeri a strongly raised area on each

elytron; moderately finely and somewhat closely punctured in longitudinal rows; each elytron with a transverse testaceous fascia

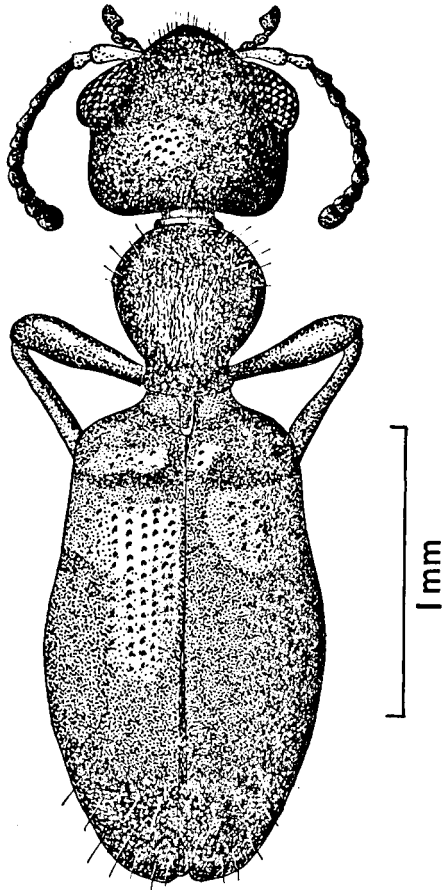


Fig. 33. *Anthicus judithi* n. sp., paratype, from VENEZUELA, Encontrados (Zulia).

covering the subhumeral depression, reaching the sides but not quite reaching the suture; scattered erect setae, particularly towards the apex. Dorsum black with pro-, meso- and metasternum lighter, shining except head which is coarsely, closely and rugosely

punctate, broadly at the sides and closer apically, leaving a sub-triangular area smoother. Legs slender; black.

Length 2.75–3 mm.

Type: VENEZUELA, Encontrados, on the Río Catatumbo (Zulia), 17.VII.1930. — Paratypes: Venezuela, Encontrados (Zulia), 17.VII.1930, 2 exx. (at light). CUBA, Santa Clara, 13–21.IV.1933, 1 ex.; Camaguey, 21.IV.–5.V.1933, 1 ex.

This species is named after my daughter JUDITH. The species is closest to *Anthicus testaceoguttatus* Fairm. & Germ., from which it differs in being more shining, with a more pronounced subhumeral depression and narrower pronotum.

***Anthicus laterotuberculatus* n.sp.**

Fig. 34.

Subovate; dark, rufocastaneous, bifasciate, glabrous and strongly and closely punctate.

Head fusco-castaneous with disc darker, very dull, strongly shagreened with small flat tubercles, and scattered setae; sub-triangular, broadest just behind the eyes which are large, prominent, and coarsely faceted; temples parallel, basal angles rounded, base arcuate; in front of eyes head contracted to strongly transverse labrum; labrum and mandibles castaneous. Antennae robust; segment 2 shorter than 1; 3–5 subequal and obconic; 6–8 shorter, also subequal and obconic; 9 and 10 shorter and broader; 11 elongate. Palpi almost flavous, finely pubescent. Pronotum about as long as broad, almost globose, as wide as head with eyes; fusco-castaneous; sculptured as head, with a distinct broad neck anteriorly, with scarcely noticeable anterior angles, evenly and strongly rounded to just in front of middle where it is widest; strongly contracted to just before base where there is an oblique lateral sulcus on each side, thence widening again to the basal angles which are rounded; base straight and strongly margined; at the widest part armed laterally with a tubercle on each side and in front of this another, smaller, tubercle; scattered setae throughout. Scutellum small, triangular; dull, fusco-castaneous. Elytra somewhat shining; subovate, a little more than half as long again as wide, truncate at base; humeri prominent, gently widened towards the middle of each side and thence evenly arcuately,

rounded to the apices which are individually rounded; without a subhumeral depression or a humeral prominence; castaneous with

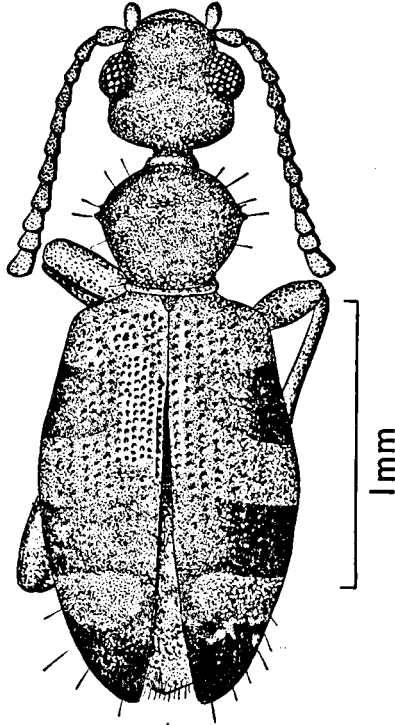


Fig. 34. *Anthicus laterotuberculatus* n. sp., type, from ARUBA, Fontein.

the suture fuscous and with two transverse fasciae and the apex black; the first fascia subhumeral and divided at the suture where it turns towards the base; second fascia submedian, reaching the suture where it is broadened, extending forwards towards the base and backwards to meet the apical black mark; closely, coarsely and strongly punctate, in the main the interstices narrower than the punctures; with long scattered outstanding setae, particularly at the sides and apex. Dorsal surface a little lighter. Legs moderately slender; testaceous, finely pubescent.

Length 2.5–2.75 mm.

Type: ARUBA, Fontein, 27.VI-5.VII.1930. — Paratypes: ARUBA, Fontein, 4.VII.1930, 1 ex. CURAÇAO, Porto Marie, 15.IV.1930, 5 exx. BONAIRE, Fontein, 21-24.V.1930, 1 ex.

Anthicus laterotuberculatus differs from *A. trifasciatus* Fairm. by its shorter and more ovate elytra which are much more strongly punctate.

***Anthicus macgillavryi* n.sp.**

Fig. 35

Moderately elongate; fusco-brunneous in part, fusco-testaceous in part, moderately shining, very finely pubescent and with scattered setae.

Head fusco-brunneous, somewhat shining; slightly broader than long (in fig. 35 it is strongly deflexed); clothed with very fine whitish pubescence, visible only in certain lights; very finely punctured indeed, to almost impunctate; truncate at base; basal angles broadly rounded almost to eyes which are prominent and coarsely faceted; in front of eyes slightly narrower than at temples, strongly contracted to transverse labrum which is more noticeably pubescent. Palpi testaceous; apical segment securiforme. Antennae testaceous; somewhat robust, reaching a little beyond the base of the pronotum; segment 1 stout, elongate; 2 and 3 shorter, together a little longer than 1; 4-7 inclusive very elongate, subequal; 8-10 a little shorter; 11 a little longer than 10 and slightly broader. Pronotum elongate, a little narrower than head; fusco-brunneous, dull; finely and very closely punctured, clothed with very fine, short, whitish pubescence which is inconspicuous in certain lights; moderately convex; broadest just behind anterior angles which are somewhat rounded, arcuately contracted anteriorly to distinct broad neck; sinuately contracted to basal angles which are somewhat rounded. Scutellum small, triangular. Elytra more shining than pronotum but less so than head; fusco-testaceous with a broad fascia reaching both the suture and the sides, apex a little infuscate; elongate, half as long again as broad; a little wider than the head at humeri which are prominent, thence widened in an almost straight line to just behind the middle from whence it is evenly arcuately rounded to the apex; moderately convex; sub-humeral depression weak; area between humeri, suture and the

subhumeral depression very feebly raised; very finely, closely and shallowly punctate, clothed with fine, short, decumbent yellowish pubescence; towards the apex with scattered outstanding setae.

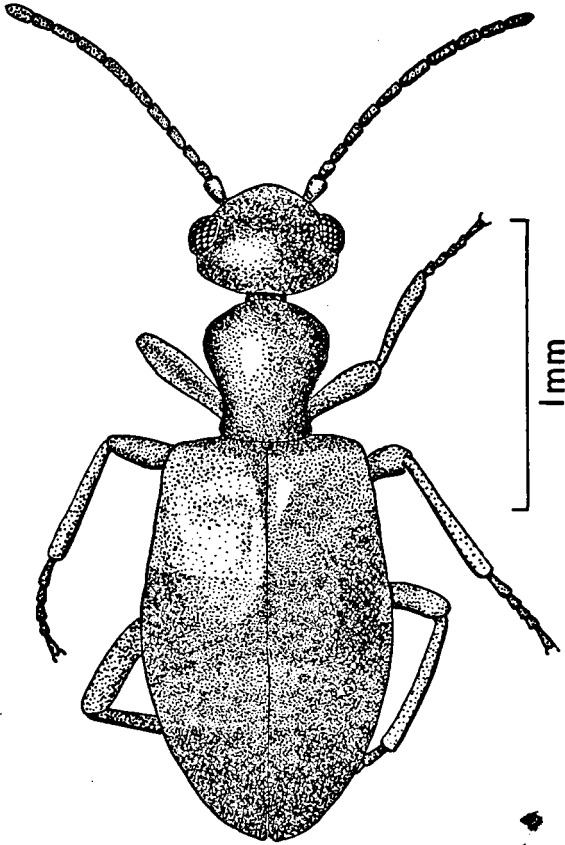


Fig. 35. *Anthicus macgillavryi* n. sp., type, from CUBA, Manicaragua.

Dorsal surface fusco-testaceous and somewhat shining except abdomen which is darker at the base, less shining overall and pubescent. Legs somewhat slender; testaceous.

Length 2 mm.

Type: CUBA, Manicaragua, 14.III.1933 (in *Ricinus* fruits). — Paratypes: CUBA, Pinar del Río, 16–29.V.1933, 4 exx.; 6 km west from La Guira, 10.VI.1933, 1 ex.; Hormiguero, 10–28.II.1933, 1 ex.; Camaguey, 21.IV–5.V.1933, 1 ex.; San Blas, 1–9.III.1933, 1 ex.

This insect is closest to *Anthicus apicicornis* La Ferté, but the shoulders are more rounded and the pronotum is narrower and more shining. *A. macgillavryi* has the ample elytra of *A. foederatus* Champ., but they are shorter and the coloration and puncturation is different.

***Anthicus punctipennis* Champion**

Biol. Centr.-Amer. 4, 2, 1890, p. 233.

COLOMBIA, Pamplona – Don Juana (Santander del Norte), 19.VII.1930, 3 exx.

***Anthicus aequinoctialis* La Ferté**

Monogr. des Anthicidae, 1849, p. 137.

VENEZUELA, Mene Grande (Zulia), 23–24.VII.1930, 2 exx.; Encontrados (Zulia), 17.VII.1930, 1 ex.

***Anthicus teapensis* Champion**

Biol. Centr.-Amer. 4, 2, 1890, p. 249.

VENEZUELA, railway between La Fría (Táchira) and Encontrados (Zulia), 22.VII.1930, 1 ex.; Encontrados (Zulia), 17.VII.1930, 1 ex.

***Anthicus vicinus* La Ferté**

Monogr. des Anthicidae, 1849, p. 157.

COLOMBIA, railway from Boca del Río la Grita to Cúcuta (Santander del Norte), 18.VII.1930. CUBA, Hormiguero, 10–28.II.1933, 2 exx.; Manicaragua, 9–15.III.1933, 1 ex.; Camaguey, 21.IV–5.V.1933, 1 ex.; Pinar del Río, 16–29.V.1933, 4 exx.

***Anthicus isthmicus* Champion**

Biol. Centr.-Amer. 4, 2, 1890, p. 220.

VENEZUELA, road from Valera to La Ceiba (Trujillo), 2.VIII.1930, 1 ex.