A NEW SPECIES OF ENCYMON FROM THE
SOLOMON ISLANDS (COLEOPTERA,
ENDOMYCHIDAE)

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Encymon scintillans, new species

Characters of Encymon: Mandibles with apex prolonged and
aciculate, and with a sharp internal tooth; last joint of labial palp
four or more times as broad as long; prosternum narrow between
the coxae and not prolonged posteriorly; mesosternum with its
intercoxal breadth much less than the diameter of middle coxa;
elytra strongly convex in both axes.

Holotype Male: Length, 8.6 mm. Head smooth, shining,
with sparse and fine punctures, each of which bears a minute
seta; antennal tubercles moderately prominent. Pronotum half
again as broad as long (at middle), front margin with a small
stridulatory membrane at its center, front angles produced and
acutely rounded, side margins broadly rounded in anterior two-
thirds, then a little contracted and parallel to base, hind angles
slightly acute, basal transverse sulcus deeply impressed and con-
tinued laterally to the hind angles, lateral sulci narrowly impressed
and short, disc of pronotum with very fine punctures. Elytra
long-oval in outline, abruptly wider at humeri than pronotum but
less so than usual in the genus, umbones only moderately prom-
inent; from their bases the elytra are gradually widened to
about mid-length, then evenly narrowed to their separately
rounded apices; surface of elytra finely punctured. Last abdom-
inal sternite with a small tubercle near its center, its hind margin
broadly and shall lowly excised. Front tibia with a low, blunt

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tooth at the distal third of its inner face; middle tibia similarly armed and rather strongly incurved beyond the tooth; hind tibia simple, straight.

**COLORATION:** Under surface, head, antennae, pronotum, and tibiae black; elytra deep purple, almost black, each elytron with a large, oval, orange-red spot on its apical third. Femora black in basal half, orange-red in apical half, their extreme tips infuscate. The entire upper surface is polished and of unusual brilliance.

**ALLOTYPE FEMALE:** Length, 8.8 mm. Differs from the holotype male in its slightly larger size, simple tibiae (both middle tibiae are missing), and rounded last abdominal sternite, which is without features worth remark.

**TYPE MATERIAL:** Holotype, male, and allotype, female, Malaita, Solomon Islands, in the American Museum of Natural History. Paratype, male, same data, in author’s collection.

The elytra of this species of *Encymon* are narrower, relative to the pronotum, than in any other species known to me. All but three of the numerous species of the genus hitherto described have the elytra unicolorous; in *bipustulatus* Gorham (1873, Endomycici Recitati, p. 38) of Aru Island and New Guinea and the doubtfully distinct *erima* Csiki (1900, Termész. Füz., vol. 23, p. 123; 1902, *ibid.*, vol. 25, p. 31) the elytra are spotted as in *scintillans*, but these species have the pronotum red. In the male of *bipustulatus* the front tibia is unarmed. *Erimae* is known to me only from the descriptions of Csiki, but I strongly suspect that the red elytral margin cited by him is a teneral feature; otherwise his descriptions apply well to *bipustulatus*, which may have the femora bicolored or wholly black. The other spotted species is *regalis* Gorham (1874, Trans. Ent. Soc. London, p. 440) of the Philippines, in the male of which the front and middle tibiae are armed as in *scintillans*. *Regalis* is, however, a larger, less polished insect, and each of its elytra has two spots, one basal, the other pre-apical. The aedeagi of the males of *scintillans*, *bipustulatus*, and *regalis*, while very much alike, offer differentiating characters, but these are less readily perceived than are external features.

**KEY TO THE SPECIES OF Encymon WITH SPOTTED ELYTRA**

1. Pronotum orange-red...........................................2
   Pronotum black.............................................3

2. Side margins of elytra of same color as disc *bipustulatus*
   Side margins of elytra of same color as pronotum *erima*

3. Each elytron with one spot (Solomon Islands) *scintillans*
   Each elytron with two spots (Philippines) *regalis*