AMERICAN MUSEUM NOVITATES

Number 418 — Published by THE AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY New York City — March 31, 1930

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A JAPANESE WEEVIL, *CALOMYCTERUS SETARIUS* ROELOFS, WHICH MAY BECOME A PEST IN THE UNITED STATES

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During the past summer, Mr. Wayne M. Faunce of this Museum, whose residence is at Colonial Heights in Yonkers, N. Y., brought to me several specimens of a small otiorhynchid weevil. Mr. Faunce's attention was first called to these insects by a neighbor, Mr. E. G. Peters, who had observed them on his grounds. Later, these weevils became so numerous that thousands of them were attracted by the light-colored paint on Mr. Faunce's residence or, in fact to any light-colored object anywhere on his grounds. Their numbers were so great that, even with the windows and doors screened, trouble was experienced in keeping them from entering his residence. Being unable to identify the specimens, we sent them to Mr. L. L. Buchanan of the U. S. National Museum. His reply was as follows:

> The species, *Calomycterus setarius* Roelofs,[1] is highly interesting both from a systematic standpoint and because it is an addition to the North American fauna. It was described by Roelofs from Japan in 1873. In the generic description of *Calomycterus*, Roelofs says that the femora are without teeth, whereas your specimens have a fine, spine-like femoral tooth. However, I have examined a single Japanese specimen of *C. setarius*, marked "cotype," which has an identical femoral armature, and I conclude that this tooth was overlooked by Roelofs.

A later communication from Mr. Buchanan in answer to my inquiry about references to the species is as follows:

> I do not know of any reference to the species outside of the original description, so that any observations on its habits and distribution in this country would be of interest. Judging by the success of several other recently introduced oriental beetles in the eastern United States, it seems entirely possible that this weevil may become economically important.

After receiving the above reply, Mr. Faunce made further observations of the beetle and reports that they were found on American and Japanese ivy, rose-bushes, geraniums, woodbine, etc. Considerable damage to woodbine and American ivy occurred, which Mr. Faunce

[1] 1873, Ann. Soc. Ent. Belgique, XVI, p. 175.

believed was due to these insects, but their feeding on other plants was barely noticeable.

The following is a description of the specimens found at Colonial Heights, Yonkers, New York. See also figure 1.

Length, 4.5 mm. Black. Legs and antennæ brown. Rostrum short, broad, expanded apically; apex triangularly incised and bare; a fine, more or less obsolete carina begins at the apex of the incision and extends along the median line; scrobes sub-lateral and extending backward from the base of the antennæ in a somewhat

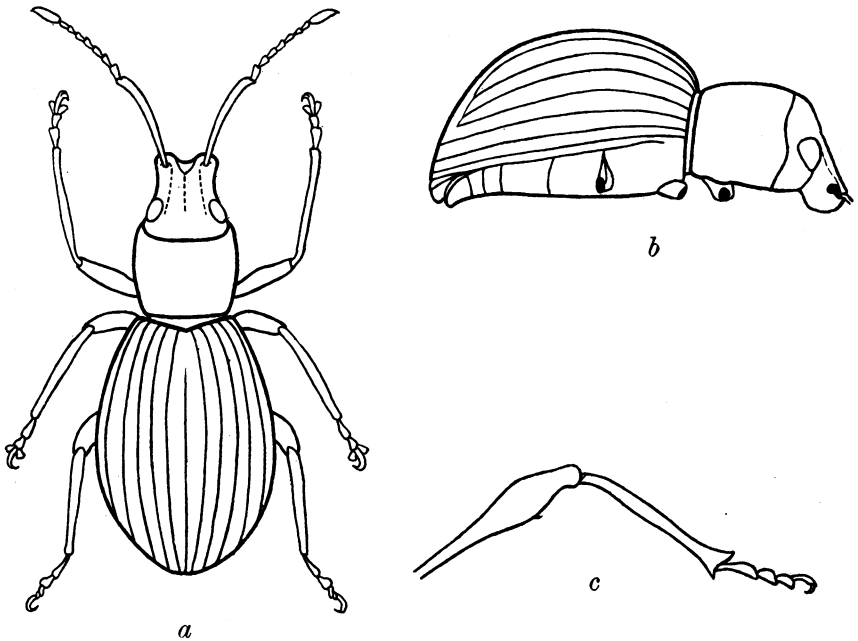

Fig. 1. *a. Calomycterus setarius* Roelofs, dorsal view. *b.* Side view showing ocular lobes and with dotted line to indicate position of antennal groove. *c.* Leg, indicating position of femoral tooth.

straight line so that the upper portion is located approximately at the middle of the front margin of the eye; antennæ with scape slightly curved and reaching a little beyond the apex of prothorax; funicle seven-jointed, first joint slightly longer and stouter than the second, third to seventh joints gradually diminishing in length; club elongate, pointed at apex; scape sparsely covered with short scale-like hairs, funicle sparsely covered with longer hairs. Head covered with a mixture of greenish-gray and brown scales, the paler ones predominating. Eyes moderately prominent, oval, subangulate below; starting at the point of the angle there is a glabrous line which extends underneath the head, becoming somewhat broadened on the ventral portion. Pronotum wider than long, slightly narrower at base than apex; sides

approximately parallel, scales as on the head; coarsely punctate; ocular lobes narrow and somewhat long. Elytra broadly convex, broadest slightly behind the basal half, slightly wider than the thorax at base, subacuminate at apex. Each elytron with ten striæ, intervals, near the suture and sides feebly convex, middle ones more strongly convex, the convexity becoming more prominent apically; scales white with greenish and coppery metallic cast; on each interval, from base to apex, there is a row of stiff hairs, each hair proceeding from a puncture; under surface covered with scales and sparse stiff hairs, which are much shorter than those on the upper surface; first and second abdominal segment approximately equal in length, third and fourth together about as long as the second, fifth longer than the fourth, apex rounded. Femora somewhat club-shaped, widest about apical third, gradually tapering toward the base, more suddenly toward the apex. Each femur with an extremely small, narrow, sharp pointed tooth at its widest part. Tibiæ slightly curved at apex, corbels of hind tibiæ open. Tarsi with first joint longer than the second, second and third about equal, third bilobed, claw joint about equal in length to the first, claws somewhat widely open.

This species belongs in the apterous group of the Otiorhynchidæ and, as they do not fly, their spread is apt to be much less rapid than winged forms.