

AMERICAN MUSEUM NOVITATES

Published by
Number 1046 THE AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY October 11, 1939
New York City

A NEW BEE OF THE GENUS *PASIPHAË* FROM PERU

BY T. D. A. COCKERELL

I am indebted to Mr. Herbert F. Schwarz for bringing to my attention this very beautiful species of bee from Peru.

Pasiphae perornata, new species

♀.—Length about 13 mm., anterior wing 11.4. Head and thorax shining dark green; abdomen bright red, with the first tergite green except the broad apical margin, the second broadly green at base. Head broad; hair of head and thorax short and black; eyes with a coppery lustre; mandibles long, red, black at end, which is bidentate; labrum binodose; clypeus mainly black, greenish at upper end, with small punctures, and a delicate median groove; ocelli in a curve; supraclypeal area black, forming a prominence between antennae; antennae entirely bright red, the flagellum short and stout; middle of front brassy, contrasting with the bluish of sides. Mesonotum shining, with rather sparse small punctures and a deep median groove in front; scutellum large, bigibbous, the elevations black; area of metathorax shining; tegulae black, a little brownish in middle. Wings dilute brownish, stigma long and slender, pale reddish, nervures brown; the intercubitus, if produced upward to margin, would reach it a little beyond end of stigma; marginal cell long, obliquely truncate at end, and appendiculate; basal nervure meeting nervulus, which is strongly oblique, but bent at its lower third (the same in *P. caerulescens*); second cubital cell long, receiving the recurrent nervures equally distant from base and apex; lobe of hind wing broad and short. Legs with black hair; femora black; anterior tibiae and tarsi red; middle tibiae red, with a band of black hair on outer side, their basitarsi reddish, but appearing dark from a dense covering of black hair, the small joints red; hind tibiae and basitarsi black, but the small tarsal joints red; tibial scopa dense, the hairs appressed. Abdomen shining, without evident punctures, and without hair bands; apex with pale reddish hair; venter with a well-developed scopa, the hairs long and sooty on basal half, pale reddish on apical.

Peru: Puno (J. Soukup). Type in American Museum; cotype in my collection.

Nearest to *P. caerulescens* Spinola, which has a similar ventral scopa, but that species

is considerably smaller, with a green abdomen. *P. rufiventris* Spinola is a much smaller species, with black head and thorax and bright red abdomen in the female. *P. tristis* Spinola, with dark abdomen, is probably its male. There is a curious resemblance in several respects to *Brachyglossa rufocaerulea* Friese, 1922, from Bolivia. The name *Brachyglossa* was preoccupied, and Friese proposed in manuscript another name, also preoccupied. But Hedicke in 1922 substituted *Brachyglossula*, and Friese used this name in 1925, placing the genus in the group with *Chilicola*, *Pasiphaë*, and *Bicolletes*. *B. rufocaerulea* was based on the male, about 15 mm. long, blue, with black hair, the abdomen mainly red, labrum and mandibles yellow. The venation, as figured by Friese, is quite impossible for our bee, which has the first discoidal cell greatly produced basally, the lower section of the basal nervure at least twice as long as the upper; the hind wing, also, is not at all the same. Friese suggests that *Brachyglossula* may be allied to the S. African *Polyglossa*, and it must be said of our bee that there is a good deal of resemblance. *P. peringueyi* Cockerell has a strong ventral scopa on the basal half of the abdomen. Friese also suggests affinity with the Australian *Hyleoides* (not *Hylaeoides*, as frequently amended), but I see no basis for this.

Hedicke (Mitt. D. Ent. Ges., April, 1933) stated that *Brachyglossula rufocaerulea* (Friese) falls as a synonym of *B. boliviensis* (Vachal, 1901), described under *Pasiphaë*. Vachal's species was based on a female, which is said to be exceedingly like *P. bowieri* Vachal, the latter being 9 to 11.5 mm. long, thus much smaller than Friese's insect. Vachal's description of *P. boliviensis* is very short, but it indi-

cates a species differing from *P. perornata* both in details of coloration and venation. *P. bouvieri*, said to be very closely allied, is black, with blue tints (cyaneo-micans), the abdomen (♀) mainly red; the male has

red mandibles, and the abdomen wholly red.

This is the fourth *Pasiphaë* from Peru, the others being *P. bouvieri* Vachal (from Cuzco), *P. seydi* Strand, and *P. peruviana* Cockerell.