NOTES ON NORTH AMERICAN NITIDULIDAE, II:
CRYPTARCHA SHUCKARD

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The genus Cryptarcha embraces many species which are found in all parts of the world. The six species occurring in the United States have apparently two origins. Cryptarcha ampla, grandicollis, glabra and strigatula n. sp. are closely related to the numerous Neotropical forms, whereas the smaller concinna and gila n. sp. are more closely related to the Palaearctic imperialis Fabr. and its allies. The apparently two origins are reflected in the two subgenera, which are keyed below.

1. Prosternum broad between the coxae and extending beyond the middle of the mesosternum; anterior margin of the metasternum transverse or broadly rounded anteriorly; species usually longer than 4 mm.

........................................... Cryptarcha s. str.

2. Prosternum more or less narrow between the coxae and not extending beyond the middle of the mesosternum; anterior margin of the metasternum acutely rounded anteriorly; species usually shorter than 4 mm.

........................................... Lepiarcha Sharp

Subg. Cryptarcha s. str.

This subgenus comprises at least the Palaearctic strigata, the North American strigatula n. sp., ample, glabra, and the Neotropical species.

1. Unicolorous above .............................................................. 2.
   Elytra with irregular pale fasciae ...................................... 3.

2. Apex of prosternal process rounded .............. ampla Er.
   Apex of prosternal process truncate .......... glabra Schaef.
3. Apex of prosternal process emarginate ..... strigata Fabr.
   Apex of prosternal process rounded ..... strigatula n. sp.

**Cryptarcha ampla** Erichson

*Cryptarcha ampla* Erichson, 1843, in Germar, Zeitschr. Ent. 4: 356.

The color varies from nigro-piceous to testaceous and the size from 4.5 mm. to 7.8 mm. The upper surface may be almost glabrous.

It has been collected at sap of maple and willow, and extends from Quebec to Florida, west to California and Oregon.

**Cryptarcha grandicollis** Reitter


This species was described from Venezuela but is recorded from North America by Grouvelle, 1913, Coleopt. Cat., pars 56, p. 179. Dr. R. Jeannel has written that there is no specimen of this species in the Grouvelle collection in Paris; so, until confirmed, its inclusion in the North American list must remain doubtful.

**Cryptarcha glabra** Schaeffer


**Cryptarcha strigata** Fabr.

*Cryptarcha strigata* Fabr., 1787, Mant. Ins. 1: 51.

This species is here restricted to the Palaearctic fauna. The North American individuals that have previously had
Cryptarcha strigatula n. sp.

Cryptarcha strigata auctt. (partim).


As the name implies this species is a diminutive relative of strigata. It is very similar to strigata, egg-shaped, piceous, alutaceus, sparsely pubescent, with pale setae irregularly arranged on the pronotum but in seven indistinct rows on each elytron. The two transverse sinuous fasciae are much as in strigata, except that the anterior may reach the sutural margin of the elytra. The prosternal process is broadened and emarginate at the tip in strigata, but only slightly broadened and rounded at the tip in strigatula (figs. 3, 4). The length is 2.7-3.2 mm., whereas the length of strigata is 3.2-4.2 mm. The minimum length of strigata is from the literature and must be unusual, since the smallest
specimen in the collections of the British Museum and the writer measures 4.0 mm.

Holotype, male, from the Bronx, New York, Aug. 15, 1896, in the writer’s collection. Paratypes from Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Georgia, Illinois in the collections of the Museum of Comparative Zoology, American Museum of Natural History, C. A. Frost, and the writer. Specimens have been seen from as far west as Texas and north to Michigan.

Subg. Lepiarcha Sharp

Cryptarchula Ganglbauer, 1899, Käf. Mitteleur. 3: 551 (type Cryptarcha (Cryptarchula) imperialis Fabr.)

This subgenus contains at least the European imperialis and its allies, the Central American omositoides Reitter, and the following species.
Prosternal process greatly expanded at tip (fig. 6) gila n. sp. Prosternal process only slightly expanded at tip (fig. 8) ...... concinna Melsh.

Cryptarcha gila n. sp.

Elongate, piceous above, testaceous beneath. The anterior half of head, lateral fourths of the pronotum, epipleurae, and elytral fasciae testaceous. The upper surface closely punctate, finely pubescent, with numerous pale setae. The setae are arranged in eight rows on each elytron. The under surface obsoletely punctate and more sparsely pubescent. The prosternal process expanded, as shown in fig. 6. Anterior and middle coxae pale testaceous. The mandibles are of equal length and notched at tip. Length 2.5-3.3 mm.

Holotype male, allotype, and paratypes from Wheatfields near Globe, Arizona, May 4, 1934, D. K. Duncan, in the collection of the author. Paratypes with similar data in the collection of H. C. Fall. Also paratypes from Bakersfield, Calif. in the E. C. Van Dyke collection of the California Academy of Sciences.

This species is more elongate and a little longer than concinna. The apices of the elytra are more pointed than in
omositoides and concinna, agreeing in this respect with imperialis. The margins of the thorax and the epipleurae are more narrowly reflexed than in concinna and more broadly reflexed than in imperialis.

**Cryptarcha concinna** Melsheimer

*Cryptarcha concinna* Melsheimer, 1853, Cat. of the desc. Col. of U. S., p. 41.

*Cryptarcha liturata* Leconte, 1863, List Col. of N. Amer. 1: 30.


This is an extremely variable species, but is distinctive in its oval outline, explanate pronotal margins, and shape of the prosternal process as shown in fig. 8. The range of *concinna* is from Massachusetts to Florida, west to southern California and Oregon.