



# *Entomofauna*

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**Species of *Cynaesus* found in Sweden and Finland, with a note  
on the identity between *Cynaesus depressus* (HORN, 1870)  
and *Cynaesus opacus* (CHAMPION, 1886) syn. conf.  
(Coleoptera, Tenebrionidae, Diaperini)**

**Julio FERRER & Bengt ANDERSSON**

An introduced species of the American genus *Cynaesus* LECONTE has been reported from Sweden (ANDERSSON & FERRER 1989) represented by a single specimen collected about 1 mile from Västerhaninge, in Södermanland, 30.viii.1988 by Börje ANDERSSON.

The specimen was found to be identical with specimens determined by John T. DOYEN, in the FERRER collection, as *Cynaesus angustus* (LECONTE, 1851). The species was reported as new for Sweden, and the habitus and aedeagus was figured in Entomologisk tidskrift. This species is listed in LUNDBERG (1986, 1996), Coleopterorum Catalogus Sueciae as CYN ANGU 1960 b.

MANNERKOSKI & FERRER (1992) reported and figured another species, belonging to *Cynaesus*, as new for Finland, *C. opacus* (CHAMPION, 1886), identified by FERRER after comparison with specimens communicated and determined by DOYEN. The 4 specimens found in Finland by MANNERKOSKI, were collected in a waste typ, in Finland, Nummijärvi (6711: 378), 29 and 30 augusti 1990. In the evening, a little before sunset, some specimens were captured on flight and numerous specimens were found crawling on and around old plastic sacks. The inside of the sacks was swarming with thousands of beetles and German Cockroaches *Blatella germanica* (LINNAEUS). Other coleopterologists collected specimens of the same *Cynaesus* on the same place.

However, specimens from La Paz, Baja California, collected on 4-9.ix.1967, by J. CHAMSAK & M. MICHELbacher (Yucca plant), named as *Cynaesus opacus* CHAMPION by DOYEN and used as reference material determining the finish specimens, were found to be nearly identical to specimens determined by DOYEN as *C. depressus* HORN from Palm spr.

Riverside, state Calif., on 27.VI.1959, Mc SWAIN leg., coll. J. FERRER and from Buckman spr., San Diego County, U.S.A. on 14.III.1968, J. POWELL leg., coll. J. FERRER. The specimens of *C. opacus* CHAMPION have a slightly more fulvous pronotum and abdomen, which are darker brown in the specimens labeled as *depressus* HORN.

A male *Cynaesus* species sent to Bengt ANDERSSON by the Japanese collector Mr. T. UENO, consisting in a *Cynaesus* species from Hidalgo County, New Mexico, Animas Mts, 1705 m, Godfrey Place, on 24.vi.1981, by Steve DOBROTT, ex coll. T. UENO (coll. Bengt ANDERSSON), was identified as *Cynaesus angustus* (LECONTE) by Dr. C.A. TRIPLEHORN in 1986. This specimen was found to be identical in primary sexual and other characters to *Cynaesus opacus* of MANNERKOSKI & FERRER 1992.

Searching for more specimens of *Cynaesus* in February 2001, Bengt ANDERSSON contacted Dr Charles A. TRIPLEHORN, Ohio University, a world authority in Tenebrionidae. With customary kindness, he send ANDERSSON specimens of *Cynaesus angustus* (LECONTE), collected by himself from a grain elevator, at Maumee, Ohio, U.S.A.

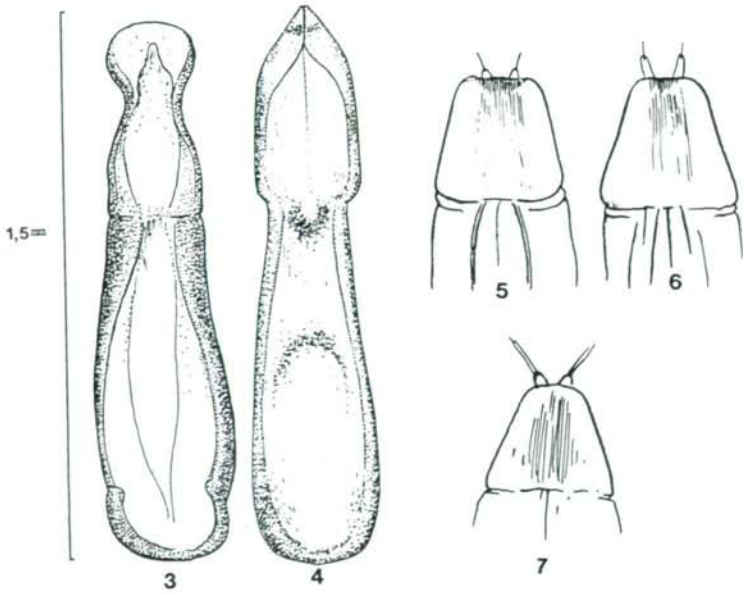
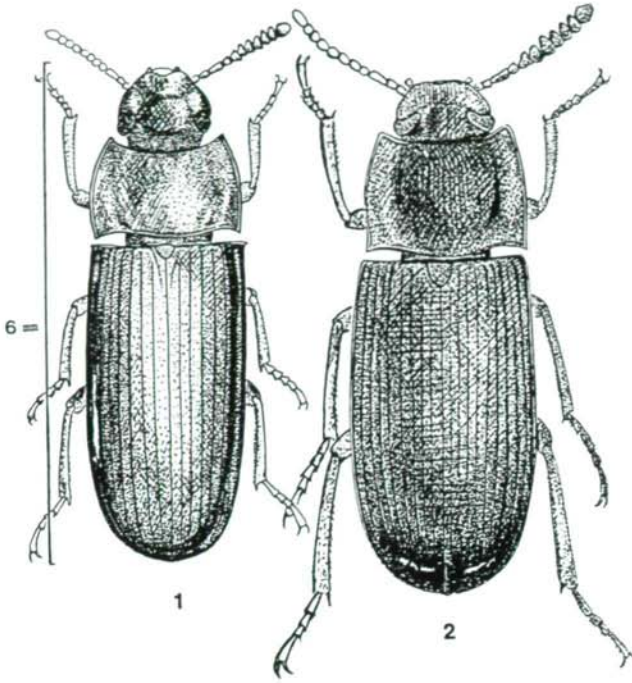
This species was found to be identical to the species previously identified as *C. opacus* by FERRER. Following a communication from TRIPLEHORN to Bengt ANDERSSON, there was no doubt that *C. opacus* CHAMPION and *C. depressus* HORN were conspecific and that the name *C. opacus* CHAMPION was invalidated by synonymy. This was also the opinion of another specialist of Tenebrionidae, Dr. Rolf L. AALBU, Ohio University.

The late Dr. Frank E. BLAISDELL, a great past authority on Tenebrionidae, implied (in litt.) that *C. depressus* HORN is a dark variety of *C. opacus* CHAMPION. Four specimens from Cap Baldy, California, U.S.A. collected in June 1916, 1917, 1919 and 1931 by L.L. MUCHMORE (Los Angeles Museum of Natural History), carry a label with the inscription: "Blaisdell det." and another: "*Cynaesus depressus* Horn/ Black var. 12540". This species is identical in shape and in ovipositor to specimens determined as *C. opacus* CHAMPION, varying only in the previously mentioned colour difference, to those collected at La Paz, Baja California, Mexico on 4-9.ix.1967 by J. CHAMSAK & M. MICHELbacher (on Yucca plant). The other species preserved in Los Angeles Museum, *Cynaesus angustus* (LECONTE) was collected in Apple Valley, San Bernardino, California, U.S.A., on 11.vi.1969 by H. MCFARLAND, and determined by SPILLMAN, the specialist who also described the larva of this species (SPILMAN 1986).

In confusing the Finnish *C. angustus* with *C. opacus*, it is suggested that FERRER may have mixed DOYEN's identification labels, after working on preparation of both species. Examination of all *Cynaesus* material, preserved in Los Angeles Museum, kindly communicated for this study to Julio FERRER by Dr Charles BELLAMY, tends to confirm this.

As a consequence of this confusion, it is clear that the figure representing *Cynaesus "angustus"* (sic) in Entomologisk Tidskrift (ANDERSSON & FERRER 1989), in reality re-

Figures 1-7 (p. 147). 1: habitus of *Cynaesus angustus* (LECONTE); 2: habitus of *C. depressus* HORN; 3: Aedeagus of *C. angustus* in ventral view; 4: aedeagus of *C. depressus* in ventral view. 5: ovipositor of *Cynaesus depressus* from Los Angeles County, W Fork, S. Gabriel River (Los Angeles Museum); 6: ovipositor from a specimen with reddish orange pronotum and abdomen of *Cynaesus depressus* from Mexico, La Paz, Baja California (Coll. FERRER); 7: ovipositor of *Cynaesus angustus* from California, Apple Valley, San Bernardino (Los Angeles Museum).



presents *Cynaesus depressus* HORN, and the figures representing *Cynaesus opacus* and *C. angustus* in MANNERKOSKI & FERRER (1992) must be substituted: the habitus and aedeagus figures are not those of *opacus*, but of *C. angustus* and vice versa. As stated, the name *opacus* CHAMPION is also invalidated by synonymy.

*Cynaesus angustus* (LECONTE) (fig. 1, 3 and 7) is easily recognised and separated from *depressus* (fig. 2, 4-6) by its much more transverse pronotum, which is proportionately shorter in respect to the length of the elytra, its relatively more convex body, and constricted, and apically rounded, not lanceolate aedeagus. The ovipositor of the female is shorter and more transverse and the hairs of the baculi are much longer. Dr. FERRER apologises for this involuntary confusion of species and recommend pertinent changes to all labels, collections and catalogues.

### Aknowledgements

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