

Messrs. Benton, Caudell, Couden, Barber, Dyar, Heidemann, Hopkins, Patten, Pratt, Titus, Ulke, members, and Messrs. Clemons, Knab, Pinkus, and Ulke, Jr., visitors.

Mr. Titus was appointed to act as Recording and Corresponding Secretary during the absence of Messrs. Currie and Benton.

Mr. Barber exhibited specimens of *Sphæridium scarabæoides* and a map showing its present distribution in America and presented the following notes:

THE SPREAD OF SPHÆRIDIDIUM SCARABÆOIDES LINNÆUS.

(COLEOPTERA, HYDROPHILIDÆ.)

BY H. S. BARBER.

The Genus *Sphæridium* is included in LeConte and Horn's Classification (1883) but with the following footnote: "A specimen of the European *Sphæridium scarabæoides* has been found in Canada. The species is undoubtedly introduced, and accidental in occurrence . . . ." The name is included in Henshaw's Check list, 1885.

In 1893 Mr. G. Chagnon, of Montreal, Can., published<sup>1</sup> the following note: "*Sphæridium scarabæoides*, which has been introduced from Europe, is now very common here. I had the pleasure to send several specimens to Dr. Geo. H. Horn."

The next mention of its capture that I can find is by Mr. C. O. Houghton, in 1898,<sup>2</sup> where he records its occurrence at Potsdam, N. Y., in 1896, and gives an account of the habits.

Entomological News, Volume XII, 1901, has four notes on this species: R. F. Pearsall (p. 158) mentions LeConte and Horn's note, and records the capture in the Catskill Mts., N. Y., in July, 1900. C. O. Houghton (p. 209) records it from Ithaca, N. Y., in May, 1901; Mr. Luccareni (p. 256) from Split Rock Pond, Morris Co., N. J. (probably 1901?) and G. W. Caffrey (p. 296) records it from Bethlehem, Pa., May 28, '01.

Mr. Schaeffer gives a note concerning its spread,<sup>3</sup> recording it from West Farms, N. Y., and also mentions Wisconsin and Canada.

Mr. Pratt took the species abundantly at East Providence, R. I., in August, 1903.

Mr. Dickerson reports it<sup>4</sup> from Chester, Morris Co., N. J.,

<sup>1</sup> Ent. News, iv, p. 76.

<sup>2</sup> Ent. News, ix, p. 172.

<sup>3</sup> Journ. N. Y. Ent. Soc., 1901, p. 94.

<sup>4</sup> Ent. News, xiv, p. 97, 1903.

September, 1902, and Anglesea, N. J., July, 1902; and Mr. Bischoff adds the record for Irvington, N. J. Later<sup>1</sup> Mr. Boerner captured it at Philadelphia Neck, Pa.

In 1904<sup>2</sup> C. O. Houghton refers to its capture in, and disposal through New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania, and adds Newark, Del., May 6, 1904 (?) to the list of places occupied by the invading beetles.

Mr. Frederick Knab, in 1905,<sup>3</sup> records its capture by Mr. A. B. Wolcott, on the lake shore at Chicago, Ill., where the beetles had been washed up October 9, 1904. Mr. Knab also mentions capturing it at Mt. Tom, Mass., in the summer of 1902, and Hampden Co., Mass., in 1903. He also states that Rev. C. Crozet took it plentifully about Hartford, Conn., in 1901.

April 17, 1905, Mr. Pinkus brought a few specimens to the National Museum from Cabin John Bridge, Md., and a few days later Messrs. Schwarz, Clemons, and myself found it abundantly at the same place. Later Mr. Clemons brought it from Rock Creek Park, D. C.

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Mr. Schwarz stated that usually when species of this character were introduced into Canada they would rarely spread southward. Since the species breeds in manure it will to some extent interfere with the development of dipterous larvæ.

—Mr. Pratt exhibited specimens of larvæ of *Abraxes grosulariata* L. that had been recently introduced into this country on *Euonymus*. The plants were sent to a Philadelphia nurseryman from England and these larvæ were noticed feeding on them by a United States Custom House officer at Baltimore, who sent them to the Bureau of Entomology.

—Dr. Dyar presented the following note on the food plant of *Derelomus (Notolomus) basalis* Lec.:

“Larvæ occurred to me at Miami, Florida, on the saw palmetto (*Chamærops serrulata*) and were sent to Mr. Kearfott to rear under the impression that they were Lepidoptera. However, the above beetle was bred, and it is thought well to here make a record of its food-plant. The larvæ occur in the flower stems of the plant boring under the bracts that subtend the joints of the stem.”

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<sup>1</sup> *L. c.*, p. 242.

<sup>2</sup> *Ent. News*, xv, p. 310.

<sup>3</sup> *Ent. News*, xvi, p. 53.