

The Endemic Genus *Cillaeopeplus* of Hawaii, with Descriptions of Two New Species (Coleoptera: Nitidulidae)

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Before 1908 all the endemic Hawaiian Nitidulidae were placed in the genus *Brachyepplus* established by Erichson in 1842 for some Australian nitidulids. Dr. D. Sharp established the genus *Cillaeopeplus* in 1908 (FAUNA HAWAIIENSIS 3:505-506) with three included species, two of them new and one previously described by him in *Brachyepplus*. There has been little new information on this genus since. In 1948 E. C. Zimmerman stated that *Cillaeopeplus* is a derivative of the SW. Pacific genus *Brachyepplus* (INSECTS OF HAWAII 1:82).

Cillaeopeplus Sharp

Cillaeopeplus Sharp, 1908, FAUNA HAWAIIENSIS 3:505.

Genotype: *Cillaeopeplus infimus* (Sharp) by present designation.

KEY TO SPECIES OF CILLAEOPEPLUS

1. Temples prolonged behind the eyes, forming a sharp angle. 2
Temples not so prolonged. *swezeyi*, n. sp.
2. Pronotum shining at the sides, with a large, dull, depressed area at the middle. *dubius* Sharp
Pronotum not shining at the sides, slightly or not at all depressed the middle, and rather uniformly dull. 3
3. Pronotum with the front angles sharply pointed and the side margins strongly serrate. *staphyliniformis*, n. sp.
Pronotum with the front and hind angles evenly rounded and the side margins feebly serrate. 4
4. Dorsum roughly sculptured; length 4 to 5 mm.; elytral striae rather deep and nearly as wide as the interspaces. *perkinsi* Sharp
Dorsum moderately sculptured; length 3.5 to 4 mm.; elytral striae moderately impressed and not nearly so wide as the interspaces. *infimus* (Sharp)

Cillaeopeplus infimus (Sharp)

Brachyepplus infimus Sharp, 1878, TRANS. ENT. SOC. LONDON, p. 135.

Cillaeopeplus infimus (Sharp), FAUNA HAWAIIENSIS 3:506, pl. XIV, fig. 5, 1908.

First collected by Rev. Blackburn about 1878, *C. infimus* is by far the commonest species. Konahuanui Ridge, Oahu, 1893, R. C. L. Perkins; Lanai, 2000 ft., 1894, Perkins; Tantalus, Oahu, in *Pisonia*, 1906, Perkins; Tantalus, Oahu, 1800 ft., W. Giffard; SE. Koolau Range, Oahu, Feb. 1922, *ex Charpentiera*, O. H. Swezey; Tantalus, Oahu, *ex Pisonia*, July 1930, Swezey; Manoa, Oahu, F. X. Williams; Tantalus, Oahu, *ex Hibiscus*, April 1934, Swezey; Tantalus, Oahu, Dec. 1952, E. J. Ford, Jr.; Makua Valley, Oahu, June 1951, *ex rotting kukui nut*, Ford.

Cillaeopeplus perkinsi Sharp

Cillaeopeplus perkinsi Sharp, 1908, FAUNA HAWAIIENSIS 3:506.

I have examined specimens of this species from the Perkins collection at the Bishop Museum, Honolulu. It is known only from the original eight examples. Makaweli, Kauai, 2500 ft., Feb. 1897, R. C. L. Perkins.

Cillaeopeplus dubius Sharp

Cillaeopeplus dubius Sharp, 1908, FAUNA HAWAIIENSIS 3:506.

Described from a single male specimen. Kilauea, Hawaii, July 1895, R. C. L. Perkins. I now have an additional twelve specimens as follows: Mt. Kaala, Waianae Mountains, Oahu, 3000 ft., Dec. 1955, under bark of dying tree, E. J. Ford, Jr.

Cillaeopeplus swezeyi, new species (fig. 1, A)

Cillaeopeplus sp. probably *infimus* Sharp, Swezey, B. P. BISHOP MUS. SPEC. PUB. 44:71, 1954.

Male: Dorsum dark brown, nearly black, moderately punctured, somewhat shining. Head finely reticulate between the punctures which are separated by about three times their diameter; broadly depressed at the antennal insertions and evenly rounded inwards immediately behind the eyes. Pronotum with the reticulations more obvious than on the head; punctures prominent, with placement similar to those on the head; two very large punctures or pits at the middle just behind the front margin; side margins prominent and slightly roughened on the outer edge; front and hind angles evenly rounded. Elytra with prominent punctures in the striae; finely punctured interspaces obviously wider than the striae. Last abdominal segment swollen at the apex. Length, 4.5 mm.; width, 1.5 mm.

Holotype: Male, Paumalu, Oahu, June 22, 1935, *ex Dracaena*, R. L. Usinger. In the Bishop Museum, Honolulu, Hawaii.

Paratype: A single male apparently teneral, Paumalu, Oahu, June 16, 1935, *ex Dracaena*, O. H. Swezey. In the collection of the Hawaiian Sugar Planters' Association Experiment Station.

Named after Dr. Otto H. Swezey for his outstanding contributions to Hawaiian entomology.

This species differs from the others in the lack of a protuberance on each side of the head immediately behind the eye, and in the presence of two large pits on the middle of the pronotum near the front margin.

Cillaeopeplus staphyliniformis, new species (fig. 1, B)

Female: Dorsum dark brown, strongly roughened and dull. Head moderately depressed in front; tubercle behind the eye extending outward slightly beyond the outer margin of the eye. Pronotum entirely roughened and dull, flattened at the middle; side margins strongly serrate; hind margin shining at the middle; front and hind angles sharply pointed. Elytra with the striae as wide as the interspaces; striae deep with many fine punctures, giving a dullness which contrasts with the raised, somewhat shining interspaces; side margins parallel; apical half and side margins black; basal half brown at the middle. Length, 4 mm.; width, 1.3 mm.

Holotype: Female, Mt. Kaala, Waianae Mountains, Oahu, Dec. 1952, 3800 ft., E. J. Ford, Jr. In the Bishop Museum, Honolulu, Hawaii.

Distinct from other species in having the tubercle on each side of the head extending beyond the outer margin of the eye and in having prominent serrations on the side margins of the pronotum.

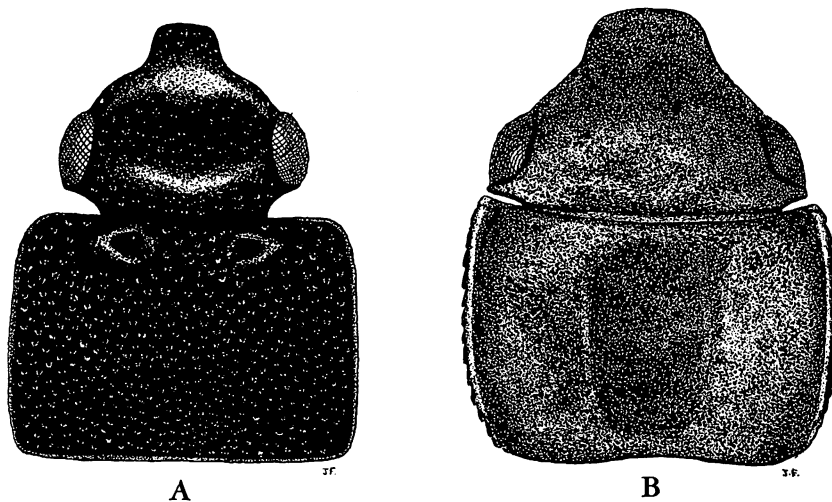


FIG. 1. Head and prothorax, dorsal view. A, *Cillaeopeplus swezeyi*, n. sp.; B, *C. staphyliniformis*, n. sp.

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