COLASPIS FAVOSA SAY AND ITS CLOSE RELATIVES
(COLEOPTERA: CHRYSOMELIDAE)

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ABSTRACT—Descriptions are given for Colaspis favosa Say and the new species C. cruriflava, C. floridana, C. sanguinea, C. similis, and C. suggona.

Colaspis favosa Say
Fig. 1, 3

Colaspis favosa Crotch, Proc. Acad. Phil. XXV, 1873, p. 44.

Say in his description of C. favosa wrote that “it inhabits Arkansas”. In the collection of the United States National Museum, H. S. Barber has dissected many specimens of the dark blue green U.S. species of Colaspis that have gone under the name of C. favosa, and he has labelled two specimens “Colaspis favosa”, one from Ardmore, Indian Territory (Oklahoma) and the second from Woods Co., Oklahoma. He has also written on one “type locality, Arkansas”. He identified them as favosa undoubtedly because they are or were the only ones coming from the nearest Arkansas that he found in the collection. We have little left of the Say collection and cannot know what species he was describing in this group of blue green beetles. But I have found one male specimen in the collection of blue green beetles that comes from Hot Springs, Arkansas, and it is not the same as the Oklahoma ones.

These dark blue green beetles, sometimes nearly black, sometimes with a bronzyl lustre, have all gone under the name of C. favosa Say. The group is analogous to the costate yellow brown closely related species of the C. brunnea group in the U.S., and like that group only by close examination and study can one differentiate them. But there are very definite differences in size, shape, in punctuation, and above all in the genitalia. When one makes drawings of them these differences become at once apparent. So, taking the one specimen from Hot Springs, Arkansas as the true favosa, I am describing it as follows:

Length 4.5-6 mm. Width 2.4-3.4 mm. Elongate oblong oval, shiny, blue green, blue or even with a bronzyl lustre, with dark reddish-brown legs and antennae except the 3 terminal joints which are more or less dark, body beneath
with prosternum and mesosternum green or blue green, abdomen brown, sometimes with a green lustre, upper surface densely punctate.

Head with interocular space more than \( \frac{1}{2} \) width of head, densely punctate throughout, labrum brown. Antennae with terminal joints dark. Prothorax not \( 2x \) as wide as long, densely punctate, sides rounded with little trace of angularity or toothing. Scutellum dark and polished. Elytra approximately \( 3x \) as long as prothorax and a little wider, densely, almost confluentely punctate with punctures near suture, margin and apex in single lines, elsewhere irregularly geminate, everywhere coarser than on prothorax. Body beneath with dense punctures on prosternum, fine, inconspicuous punctures on mesosternum, both prosternum and mesosternum dark green or blue, abdomen dark brown to piceous.

Type: Probably not in existence.
Type-locality: Arkansas.


Remarks: This species is widespread in the southeast and occurs along the eastern coast states from Georgia to Virginia and west along the Gulf through Alabama, Mississippi to Louisiana and Arkansas. It is smaller than \( C. \) suggona, the species in the Central States, and the one on Long Island, which I am describing as \( C. \) similis n.sp. It is close to \( C. \) floridana, the species from Florida; the aedeagus being similar but with a longer point than in \( C. \) floridana. There is considerable variation in size and I have made drawings of 2 males to illustrate this. The males are usually smaller than the females, and my first drawing (Fig. 1) is of a small male, which shows how even the males vary in size. My second drawing of \( C. \) favosa (Fig. 3) is of a large male.

*Colaspis floridana* Blake, NEW SPECIES

Fig. 2

Length 5-5.5 mm. Width 2.2-2.6 mm. Elongate oblong oval, shiny dark green sometimes with a bronzv or even rosy lustre; antennae pale reddish brown with terminal 3 joints dark, labrum brown, legs black, sometimes tibiae at base paler, body beneath dark, often with a green lustre.

Head with interocular space a little more than \( \frac{1}{2} \) width of head, densely, finely punctate throughout with dark brown labrum and mouthparts, a median line down front, very finely and densely punctate. Antennae pale reddish brown,
last 2 or 3 joints dark. Prothorax nearly $2\times$ as wide as long, a more or less distinct angularity on sides below middle, some specimens more rounded, disc very finely and densely punctate, punctures tending to be oblong. Scutellum dark green or bronzy. Elytra approximately $3\times$ as long as prothorax with punctures in single lines near suture, margin and apex, irregularly punctate elsewhere. Body beneath with punctures on prosternum which is usually green, mesosternum green in middle, black on sides, abdomen dark usually with a green lustre; legs dark brown to black, sometimes tibiae with reddish brown streaks.

Fig. 1, 3. *Colaspis favosa*. Fig. 2. *C. floridana*. Fig. 4. *C. sanguinea*. 
Type: $\delta$, USNM Type No. 73480.
Type-locality: West Palm Beach, Florida, on okra.

Other Collections: Florida: St. Petersburg, Van Duzee; Baldwin, Barber and Schwarz: Tampa, on gaura; Orlando, on pecan; Haw Creek; Gainesville, J. S. Rogers; Wyaka, V. M. Kirk.

Remarks: This species resembles *C. favosa* in shape, but the head and prothorax are more finely punctate and the elytra are not so densely punctate as in *C. favosa*. The aedeagus has a shorter point than that of *C. favosa*.

Many specimens have a bronzy or rosy lustre, while others are entirely green above.

Colaspis similis Blake, NEW SPECIES
Fig. 7

Length 6–6.5 mm. Width 3–3.4 mm. Oblong oval shiny dark green or blue green with dark brown to piceous legs, antenna with basal joints pale, terminal 2 or 3 joints dark. Head and prothorax densely and finely punctate, elytra more coarsely punctate.

Head with interocular space more than $\frac{1}{2}$ width of head, densely punctate over front and clypeus, labrum dark brown. Antennae pale reddish brown with terminal 2 or 3 joints dark. Prothorax approximately $2 \times$ as wide as long with margin faintly angulate below middle, disc finely and very densely punctate. Scutellum polished dark green. Elytra more than $3 \times$ as long as prothorax and wider with coarse punctuation, in single lines near suture, margin and apex, irregularly geminate elsewhere, a trace of costae between rows of punctures, on sides and at apex. Body beneath dark green on prosternum and mesosternum, dark reddish brown to piceous on abdomen, prosternum punctate.

Type: $\delta$, and 1 $\varphi$ paratype, USNM Type No. 73481.
Type-locality: “S. I.” (Staten Island, N. Y.) Bridwell, collector.

Other Collections: Long Island, N. Y., Schaeffer collection.

Remarks: There are only 3 specimens of this species in the collection, and all are from around New York City. While in general resembling the other species of the group, *C. similis* has the aedeagus broader near the tip than in the other species.

Colaspis suggona Blake, NEW SPECIES
Fig. 5

Length 5.5–7 mm. Width 2.8–4 mm. Elongate oblong oval, shiny, varying in color from blue green to blue black with dark brown labrum and basal joints 2–6 of antennae reddish brown, finely and densely punctate over head and prothorax and more coarsely punctate elytra.

Head with interocular space more than $\frac{1}{2}$ width of head, front with a slight
median depression, very finely and densely punctate throughout. Antennae with basal joint dark, joints 2–6 reddish brown, remainder dark. Prothorax not quite $2\times$ as wide as long, lateral margin sinuate, verging on dentate below middle, disc very finely and densely punctate. Elytra $3\times$ as long as prothorax with a densely and coarsely punctate surface, punctures tending to be in geminate rows but not always, remnants of costae at apex and along sides, in some specimens traces of costae near base also. Body beneath dark, prosternum finely punctate on sides. Legs dark.
Type: \( \delta \), and 7 paratypes, USNM Type No. 73482.
Type-locality: Texas, Charles Schaeffer collection.


Remarks: This species is variable in color, some specimens being green, others deep dark blue green, others green with a bronzy lustre, and still others dark bluish purple, almost black. There are 5 specimens from Aransas, Texas, which are dark bronzy brown, one of these with a faint green lustre. II. S. Barber has labelled them "var." The aedeagus is the same shape as the rest. This is one of the larger species of the \textit{favosa} group, although varying in size too. This species is widespread through the central states from Texas through Kansas and north to northern Illinois and South Dakota, Nebraska, Iowa, and Colorado.

\textit{Colaspis sanguinea} Blake, NEW SPECIES

Fig. 4

Length 5.7-7 mm. Width 3-3.4 mm. Elongate oblong oval, shiny blue green with yellow-brown antennae except the 1st and 5 terminal joints which are dark, labrum pale brown, below with dark brown legs, green body and brown abdomen. Densely and rather finely punctate.

Head with interocular space more than \( \frac{1}{2} \) width of head, very finely and densely punctate throughout. Labrum pale brown. Antennae with basal and 5 terminal joints dark. Prothorax nearly \( 2x \) as wide as long, with rounded sides in which the majority show little sign of angularity or toothing. Surface densely and very finely punctate. Scutellum shiny dark green. Elytra more than \( 3x \) as long as the prothorax and wider, very densely and rather finely punctate, punctures in single lines near margin and suture, irregularly geminate punctate elsewhere. Body beneath with punctures on prosternum and mesosternum, dark green prosternum and mesosternum, abdomen dark brown.

Type: \( \delta \), USNM Type No. 73483.
Type-locality: Ardmore, Indian Territory (Oklahoma), C. R. Jones collector.

Other Collections: Oklahoma: So. McAlester, Wickham; Vinita, June 7-8, Wickham; Bartlesville, A. C. Caudell; Woods County, Sept. 7, 1930, R. D. Bird.

Remarks: This species differs from the rest of the group in having proportionately longer elytra; the elytra being considerably longer than three times as long as the prothorax. Besides this, the elytra are unusually finely punctate, more so than in the others. The aedeagus differs from the rest in being wider near the tip.
Colaspis cruiflava Blake, NEW SPECIES

Fig. 6

Length 4–4.5 mm. Width 2.3–2.5 mm. Elongate oblong oval, shiny green with yellow-brown legs, labrum, and basal joints of antennae, densely punctate on prothorax and elytra, a slanting depression on either side of prothorax near base.

Head with interocular space more than half width of head, front smooth, nearly impunctate except above frontal tubercles where very fine punctures occur. Antennae pale yellow brown with apical four joints dark. Prothorax not much wider than long with faint angularity below middle on side margins, surface densely and finely punctate; on each side near base a slanting depression. Scutellum polished green. Elytra not quite 3 times as long as prothorax and somewhat wider, densely punctate throughout, in single lines near suture, base and margin, in more or less geminate lines in middle of elytra. Body beneath with abdomen dark, prosternum and mesosternum green, prosternum punctate. Legs yellow brown with claw dark brown.

Type: And 2 paratypes USNM Type No. 73484.

Remarks: This species is somewhat paler green than the rest and the only one of the group with yellow legs. It is the smallest one of the favosa group. There is a peculiar depression on each side of the prothorax not found in the others, and the aedegagus is quite different from the others. In fact, it hardly fits into the group.