

CRIOCEPHALUS PINETORUM, Woll.

- ♂. *Criocephalus pinetorum*, Woll., Journ. Entom. II, p. 103 (1863); and Cat. Col. Canar., p. 388 (1864).
♀. *Criocephalus rusticus*, id. Col. Atlant., p. 345 (1865).

Wollaston first fell into the double error of considering the sexes of *C. pinetorum* to be different species and of determining the female to be *C. rusticus*. This was not recognized by him in revising the work in 1865, and being then baffled to distinguish the *C. pinetorum* he sank the species as being merely *C. rusticus*, from which however it is totally distinct. This does not complete the sum of Wollaston's confusion; for he considered the Madeiran *C. rusticus* to be the same, though he noticed the different habitat in the two islands. The insect found about Funchal in Madeira in connection with the introduced, planted, conifers is really the *C. rusticus* of authors, while the *C. rusticus* of Wollaston Coll. Atlant. (nec auctt.), found in the native pinals of the Canary Islands, is the female of *C. pinetorum*, Woll., and is a quite distinct, precinctive species. As Wollaston found the two together in the Canaries it appears remarkable that he should not have considered them to be the sexes of one and the same species. Probably he suspected them to be so, but not having detected the characters that distinguish the female from *C. rusticus* and *C. ferus* (which at that time were generally confounded in collections), he finally came to the erroneous conclusion that all were one species. Hence this good species has since been lost sight of. Bedel however suspected some error; and in placing the name as a synonym of *C. rusticus* added a note of interrogation.

This species has the eyes bare (*i. e.* with extremely short setæ between the facets) and the fourth joint of the tarsi intermediate between that of *C. rusticus* and *C. ferus*. The sexes are very different, and hence Wollaston supposed

the female to be *C. rusticus*. The female differs from the male by its large size, black colour, and the usual differences in the length of the antennæ and the structure of the apex of the abdomen.

"Abounds in the Ancient Pinals of intermediate and lofty elevations" (Woll. 1865), but nevertheless is excessively rare in collections. Recorded from the islands of Palma, Teneriffe, and Hierro.

The male is small (sometimes only 10 or 11 mm. long) and of a brown colour, the gular area is very definitely limited behind, almost semicircular, and is closely and coarsely punctured, the bush of erect pubescence moderately dense.

The female has not been described. I have seen only two specimens of it, one in my own collection and one in Wollaston's Canarian collection, where it stands as *C. rusticus*. It is more flat than the corresponding sex of *C. ferus*, and has a more transverse thorax. The punctuation of the gular area is remarkably definite, and extends over a large space; the prosternum is but little convex in front, and the metathoracic episternum is much narrower. In these latter respects, as well as in the more deeply divided third tarsal joints, it approaches *C. rusticus*.