

Nirmus taurus Giebel. (Male).

Narrow, dirty white with black margins; head long, narrow, clypeus convex anteriorly, angle of antennal excision elongate anteriorly, antennae long, last segment elongate; prothorax and metathorax of equal length, legs very long, black-marked, abdominal margins obtusely crenate, black, rectangular abdominal spots fuscous, last three segments with bands. Length of body  $1\frac{1}{2}$  mm.

This species, only represented by one specimen from the West African Buceros leucopygus which I have described in the previous number (p.73) as a new species, has besides its quite definite Nirmus-shape such strikingly elongated sharp trabecula-like anterior angles of the deep antennal cavity that one might at first sight place it in the genus Docophorus. The head, about a third longer than the thorax, narrows anteriorly only very little and is beset on its convex fore-margin with 6 long setae, of which there are 2 more in front of the angles of the antennal cavity. The strongly conical anterior angles of the antennal cavity are almost as long as the basal segment of the antenna. The hind head is somewhat broader than long, the temporal angles rounded. The antennae, sunk in a deep cavity behind the middle of the head, extend considerably beyond the occipital margin and have a thick, short basal segment, a very long second, the third of the length of the fifth, the fourth segment is the shortest. The prothorax is transversely oblong; the no-longer metathorax broadens posteriorly and has a convex hind margin. The very long legs have blackish-brown-margined femora and tibiae, dark brown articulations, the tibiae with a few spines on the inner margin; the slender claws are strongly curved. The long and narrow abdomen broadens slowly as far as the fifth segment and then narrows more rapidly and the small terminal segment is almost circular. On the strongly projecting blunt lateral angles of the segments stand on each two long setae, on the terminal segment three on each side, on the dorsal surface rather numerous and long setae irregularly scattered.

The head is black-margined, without frontal signature, with two small occipital spots. Both thoracic rings are also black-margined, as is also the abdomen. On the latter each segment bears a dark brown quadrangular blotch (pale in the middle), the 7th. and 8th. have bands which are brown throughout, the terminal segment is brown. On the underside lie faint brown marginal blotches and the spiracles have unilateral black margins.

The single known Nirmus from Buceros rhinoceros, <sup>Nirmus</sup>cephalotes Giebel (Ins. epizoa p.147, Pl. 8 f.8 a) is much stouter-built, has shorter and thicker antennae, stoutly conical anterior angles of the antennal cavity, and long narrow blotches on the abdominal segments, so that it is separable at first glance from the above species.