A NEW ATTALUS FROM THE WESTERN UNITED STATES
(Coleoptera: Malachidæ)

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Several years ago I sent a lot of beetles for identification to the late Dr. F. E. Blaisdell. Returning these, Dr. Blaisdell called my attention to a species of *Attalus* as being new. Since the specimens remained in my collection unnamed for a number of years, I am presently taking the opportunity to describe this species, naming it, as it seems proper, after Dr. Blaisdell.

Attalus blaisdelli Malkin, new species

In general shape more elongate than the usual forms of *Attalus*. *Head*: black throughout except labrum and mandibles which are yellow. Disc of the head very shining, reticulate with an impression in the middle. Slightly longer than wide. *Thorax*: entirely black, very shining, almost impunctate. The few punctures present are very feeble and irregularly spaced. Wider than long, more so in the male than in the female. Proportions of thoracic length to width as follows (given as proportions only, not as actual measurements): Male, 2 : 2.5; Female, 2.3 : 2.7. *Thorax* with a very distinct impression on disc. Rows of setæ along thoracic margins. *Elytra*: greenish-black with metallic dull lustre. Sides of elytra and suture dark yellow to rufous except the anterior third which is similar in color to disc. Surface of elytra reticulate, coarse. Dark, erect bristles present along the sides and suture. *Abdomen*: black in the male, yellow in the female. Mesosternum dark. *Legs*: black except base of femur which is yellow. Tarsal spur not dilated at base. *Antennae*: In male half as long as entire body, strongly serrate, segments one and one half times as long as wide. In female the length of antennæ is somewhat less than in the male with segments more slender and feebly serrate. Also, the female's intermediate segments are twice as long as wide. In both sexes the basal segment is elongate, the second very short and round while the apical segment is sharply pointed. The color is generally rufous but the first three segments are slightly paler than the remainder. All are covered with minute hairs. Length: 3.2 to 3.7 mm.

Holotype male and allotype female Nos. 5913 and 5914, Calif. Acad. Sci., Ent., and two paratypes collected by the writer from flowers of an undetermined plant in open country near BOISE, IDAHO, 15 June, 1941. The paratypes are in the writer's collection.

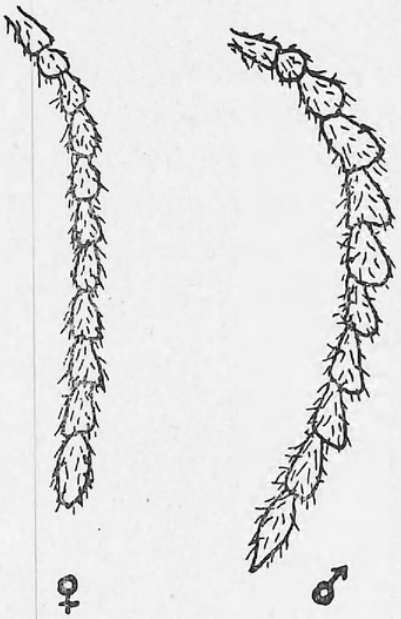

Fig. 1. *Attalus blaisdelli* Malkin

This species seems to be most closely allied to *Attalus demissus* Fall.* The color pattern is exactly the same. Size would differentiate the two species, *demissus* being considerably smaller 2.3 to 2.5 mm.). The antennæ provide another clue, being shorter in *blaisdelli* but on the other hand much more strongly serrate and having wider segments. Also the thoracic impression is lacking in Fall's species while the thorax is less punctate. The difference in locality is not significant. *Demissus* has been described from Colorado and material collected of both species is insufficient to define their geographical distribution correctly.

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* Fall, H. C. 1917. "Short Studies in the Malachidae." Trans. Am. Ent. Soc., XLIII, pp. 67-88.