

DESCRIPTION OF THE LARVA OF *DELPHASTUS*
PUSILLUS, LEC., WITH NOTES ON THE
HABITS OF THE SPECIES.

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In collecting insects at Poquonock, Conn., July 18, 1904, my assistant, Mr. B. H. Walden, found coccinellid larvæ feeding upon a species of *Aleyrodes* which is probably undescribed, and fairly common there upon the leaves of hazel, *Corylus Americanus*. These larvæ were brought to the laboratory, and were fed upon *Aleyrodes vaporariorum*, Westw., which they ate greedily. On July 23rd two had moulted; on the 28th, these had changed to pupæ, and the third larva had begun to devour one of the pupæ—his aleyrodid food supply having become exhausted.

From the uninjured pupa an adult emerged August 2nd, and the remaining larva pupated August 1st, the adult emerging August 8th. The adult is a small black beetle, about 1.5 mm. in length. Specimens sent to Washington were determined by Mr. E. A. Schwarz as *Delphastus pusillus*, Lec. This species has been placed in the genera *Æneis* by LeConte, and *Cryptognatha*, by Crotch and Horn, but Casey has erected the genus *Delphastus** on account of the difference in structure. *Delphastus* now includes four American species.

In searching the more accessible literature of American entomology, I fail to find any description of *Delphastus pusillus*, or any reference to the feeding habits of the species, though the habits of most coccinellid larvæ are known. I therefore give the following description and notes as an addition to the knowledge of this species, though it is possible that a description of this larva has been published, and that I have overlooked it.

When first taken, this larva was uniformly light gray or dirty white in colour, with dark spots on the dorsum of the first thoracic segment. After moulting, the general colour was much darker, and the following description applies to the final stage of the larva before it changed to a pupa.

Larva: Length, about 4 mm.; greatest width, about 2 mm. Ground colour gray or dirty white, with a white median line extending the entire length of thorax and abdomen. There are two pear-shaped black spots on the front of the dorsum of the first thoracic segment, one on each side of the median line. Just back of these spots are a pair of larger dark gray or lead-coloured spots, one on each side of and close to the median line. A lead-coloured area appears on the lateral margins of the segment.

*T. L. Casey, Journal New York Entomological Society, Vol. VII., p. 111.