

## NOTES ON MELOE ANGUSTICOLLIS.

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In the Editor's "Notes on Cantharides," published in the December No. of the ENTOMOLOGIST, there are some particulars in reference to *Meloe angusticollis* which differ somewhat from my own observations on this species, extending over a period of seven years. According to my experience, *Meloes* make their appearance in the perfect state about the end of August or beginning of September, when they feed greedily on *Ranunculus acris*. Later in the season, when the abdomens of the females are much enlarged, they pair, and later still—sometimes after the first frost—they deposit their eggs and invariably die that season.

The larvæ emerge from the eggs early the following spring, and I think attach themselves to bees generally on the blossoms of the willow. I presume this because I often find females about to oviposit near to willow bushes, but I have detected the young larvæ in the flowers of *Caltha palustris*, and suppose they will take to any early flowering plant.

In confirmation of these statements I submit the following from my notes on *Meloe* in the vicinity of Toronto, dating from 1870.

Although *Meloe* is common here, I have never found them much further to the north, and as I am pretty well acquainted with all parts of the county, I would say they are not found in the central nor in the northern portions of the County of York. This is curious, as in the better wooded sections the storing Hymenoptera are more numerous than about Toronto.

1870—Aug. 30th. In early morning saw several *Meloes* descending a white oak tree, in St. James' Cemetery, which tree was afterwards blown down and proved to be a *bee tree*. This would indicate that *Meloe* pupates in the hive, and when perfect, deserts it during the night.

1871. *Meloes* first seen Aug. 10th.

1872—Aug. 20th. *Meloes* feeding on *R. acris*.

1873—Aug.-Oct. *Meloes* very numerous, feeding on *R. acris*; found many females ovipositing in a cold, wet situation, after first fall frost.

1874—Aug. 29th. Found about forty *Meloes* closely huddled in a ball; they were not fighting, and although both sexes were present, do