

tint of the hair on thorax above, with a distinct band behind scutellum and a fainter one in front. The hind tibiae of *palmarum* are larger and more robust, and much less densely white-hairy. In the female, the pure white ventral scope, black on last segment, is distinctive. A *palmarum* received from Dr. Perkins has the scopa pale reddish, black on last segment; one from Mr. Timberlake has it creamy-white, black on last segment and sides of penultimate. In his description, Perkins states that the hair of the female is cinereous, with little or no fulvous tinge, and is sparse on clypeus. This agrees with *palmarum* as here recognized, but his account of the ventral scopa is more suggestive of *timberlakei*. Possibly he had the two females mixed, but his type must be considered to be the male, which is described at length. The clypeus in *timberlakei* has a large and dense brush of inwardly-directed hairs on each side, but there is little of this in *palmarum*.

A PLEA FOR DEFINITIVENESS.

I should like to bring to the attention of contributors to the Canadian Entomologist a matter which is worthy of consideration, especially to the systematist. In looking over many numbers of the "Entomologist" I have noted numerous headings such as "A Canadian Trigonals." The point which I would like to bring out is that, to the student who is not familiar with the family to which the genus Trigonals belongs, nothing is conveyed: that is, he is utterly "at sea" as to the family discussed. Would not the interest in these various genera and families be greatly increased if authors were to give not only the genus and family, but also the name of the superfamily and order under discussion. A great service would be rendered students taking up a family for study if they could quickly locate all the literature on a family, and a great many synonymous names might be avoided. After all, it must be remembered that the aim of every author is to place his findings in such a position that they will be readily available to others, and his work is judged largely by his ability to do this. The above example was selected at random, and it happens that it is but a mild example of hundreds of cases. A specialist should bear in mind that everyone is not up-to-date in his particular field, but a great deal more interest would be taken if greater definition were given.

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