

Sub-family ECANTHINÆ.

We have one genus, *Ecanthus*, the species of which are slender, delicate insects of pale greenish or whitish colours, living on trees, shrubs or tall herbs. The males differ considerably from the females in appearance, on account of the great width of the tegmina, which are much broader than the body, while those of the female are narrow and fit closely around the abdomen.

Only three species have been found in Ontario, but there are doubtless others in the south-western part of the Province.

Key to the Ontario species of *Ecanthus*:

- a. Antennæ with but one black mark on each of the two basal joints, black marks in the form of small rounded dots.....12. *niveus*.
- aa. Antennæ either wholly black or with two black marks on each of the two basal joints.
 - b. Head and thorax either black or trifasciate with black or fuscous; antennæ usually black, when pale the marks on the first joint generally connected at apex.....13. *fasciatus*.
 - bb. Wholly pale greenish or yellowish, translucent; marks on the antennæ elongate, parallel, distinct.....14. *quadripunctatus*.

12. *ECANTHUS NIVEUS*, De Geer. The Snowy Tree Cricket.

Gryllus niveus, De G., Mem. pour serv. à l'hist des Ins., III., 1773, 522.

Ecanthus niveus, Fitch., Trans. N. Y. State Agric. Soc., XVI., 1856, 404.

Measurements: Length of body, ♂ 10.5 mm., ♀ 11 mm.; of tegmen, ♂ 13.3 mm., ♀ 12.3 mm.; of hind femur, ♂ ♀ 8 mm.; of ovipositor, 4.6 mm.; width of ♂ tegmen, 5.25 mm.

This well-known insect is very common in the cultivated parts of Ontario, where it frequents orchards, vines and shade trees. Its song is the soft rhythmical "treat, treat, treat," which can be heard any evening in late summer or autumn. It is also heard in the day-time in cloudy weather, but at such times is much more subdued.

Of native trees I have found it most partial to butternut, but it occurs on many others. At De Grassi Point, Lake Simcoe, I have often traced the song to the tree from which it came, and it was very often a butternut, but sometimes an elm, maple or other hard wood.