

AN APPARENTLY NEW SPECIES OF LEPTINILLUS.
(COLEOPTERA, LEPTINIDÆ.)

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The coleopterous family Leptinidæ includes but two genera and two species, but it is of especial interest because of the fact that these two species are exactly half of the number of species of Coleoptera that are known to be, or suspected of being, ectoparasites upon birds and mammals. Of the other two species one, *Platypsyllus castoris* Ritsema (the only representative of the family Platypsyllidæ) is a permanent, obligate parasite upon beavers in both its larval and adult condition. The other, a Silphid, *Lyrosoma opaca* Mann, is a resident of the nests of certain maritime birds but is suspected of utilizing the birds for purposes of transportation. Of the two Leptinids one, *Leptinus testaceus* Müll. is an oft-recorded resident of the nests of bumble bees and small mammals, but it has once been recorded as occurring on mice¹ and once from shrews². The other, *Leptinillus validus* (Horn), is apparently a much less common form and of its habits nothing is known, except that it has once been taken from the skins of Alaskan beavers¹. The discovery of a second species of *Leptinillus* with some definite information in regard to its habits is, therefore, of considerable interest.

***Leptinillus aplodontiæ*, n. sp.**

Female.—Length 3 mm., depressed and broadly oval in shape, of a reddish brown colour, feebly shiny, the entire dorsum closely and uniformly beset with fine, setiferous punctations, the setæ short and slightly lighter in colour than the body. *Head* hemihexagonal in shape behind the frontal suture, the labrum convex anteriorly, the posterior angles of the head nearly right angles, the occiput much constricted and produced into the prothorax. Beneath the lateral margin at each posterior angle is a shallow, longitudinal groove which extends forward to the base of the antennæ and into which the first antennal segment may be received. *Antennæ* 11-segmented, slender, reaching but little beyond the posterior margin of the pronotum. *Mentum* with the posterior angles produced into a stout process about as long as

1. Riley, C. V. Insect Life, 1 : 306. (1889).

2. Kellogg, V. L. Science, N. S., XXXIX : 360-61. (1914).

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