

**OCCASION OF THE CALIFORNIA  
ACADEMY OF SCIENCES, VIII, 1901. LIST  
OF THE COLEOPTERA OF  
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA, WITH NOTES  
ON HABITS AND DISTRIBUTION AND  
DESCRIPTIONS OF NEW SPECIES**

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**H. C. FALL**

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LIST  
OF THE  
Coleoptera  
OF  
Southern California,  
WITH  
Notes on Habits and Distribution  
AND  
Descriptions of New Species

BY  
H. C. FALL

*Issued November 11, 1901*

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INTRODUCTION.

THE Coleoptera of California, or of any considerable part thereof, have never been made the subject of exclusive treatment by any of our entomologists. Portions of the State have, it is true, formed a part of much more extensive areas treated in some of the earlier faunal papers of Le Conte, but in none of importance have the Californian species been so numerous as to constitute a majority of those listed. Of these papers, two are especially worthy of mention, viz: The Report on the Insects collected on the Pacific R. R. Survey adjacent to the 47th parallel (1857), and the Catalogue of the Coleoptera of the Region adjacent to the Mexican boundary line (1858). In the former, 1,173 species are listed from Northern California, Oregon, Washington, and Alaska, of which 520 are Californian; in the latter, of about 1,000 species mentioned, 300 are credited to Southern California. To both of these, short supplements were added in 1858 and 1859. In an earlier paper (1851), Le Conte had published descriptions of 335 species from various parts of California, all of which are incorporated in the two lists above mentioned.



Previous to the time of Le Conte our knowledge of the Coleoptera of the Pacific Coast was due entirely to the writings of Eschscholtz (1829) and Mannerheim (1843-1853). Both of these authors confined their attention to the fauna of the northern coast region—more especially of Alaska—and, as is remarked by Le Conte, at the close of Mannerheim's labors, the fauna of that region was more completely developed than that of any other part of the continent.

In 1859 Le Conte published a list of 147 species collected by Xantus at Fort Tejon. The number is insignificant, but the list is interesting in the present connection, since Fort Tejon lies at the southern end of the San Joaquin Valley, on the northern slope of the mountains which separate the valley from Southern California. Of the 147 species named, 120 are now known to occur south of the mountains.

From 1859 to 1876 several papers of a faunal nature were contributed by Le Conte, Horn, and Ulke, none of which, however, are so important as to require special mention. In these, as in the two first named, the references to Californian species are for the most part contained in lists covering a much wider territory. Since 1876 only a few local lists have appeared, the most important being that contained in the report of the Death Valley Expedition;\* the Tenebrionidæ, Cicindelidæ, Histeridæ, and Coccinellidæ observed in San Diego County by Dr. F. E. Blaisdell† and two lists presented by the author, one of a collection made in the San Bernardino Mts.,‡ and the other of the Coleoptera known from the Southern California islands.§

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\*North American Fauna, No. 7, 1893. U. S. Department of Agriculture.

†Zoo, Vol. III, 1892; *Entomological News*, Vol. III, 1892.

‡*Entomological News*, Vol. V, 1894.

§*Canadian Entomologist*, 1897.

It were desirable for many reasons that the scope of the present work be enlarged to cover the fauna of the entire State. I do not, however, at present feel sufficiently familiar with the northern fauna to warrant so great an undertaking. Indeed, I have many times been tempted to indefinitely postpone the present paper, because of the very meager knowledge which we possess of the great majority of even the commoner species of our district. With a view to completeness, however, and in order to increase the usefulness of the present list, I have in the "Notes" added at the end of each genus the names—nearly always with localities, but usually without further comment—of all other species known to have occurred within the State. It is not unlikely that a certain number of these, recorded by the older writers simply from "California," may have been found within the limits of Southern California; but I have very rarely ventured to include a name in the list without definite knowledge of its occurrence within the limits of the territory here treated.

Briefly described, the term Southern California, as here used, includes that part of the State lying to the south and east of a line drawn from Point Conception eastward along the Santa Inez Mountains, then curving to the north and east around the southern end of the San Joaquin Valley, and along the desert slopes of the Sierra Nevada Mountains through Kern and Inyo counties, to the Nevada state line. The region thus defined is by no means a distinct zoological district, but its northern boundary line is as nearly an interfaunal one as it is possible to draw across the State. Its area is approximately one-third that of the entire State, and includes San Diego, Riverside, San Bernardino, Orange, Los Angeles, and Ventura counties; the southern part

of Santa Barbara, the eastern part of Kern, and the greater portion of Inyo counties.

To the student who is unacquainted with the topography and climatic conditions of California, the following brief sketch of the natural features, more especially of the region under consideration, will be of service.

The State lies approximately between the parallels of  $33^{\circ}$  and  $42^{\circ}$  of latitude, and is crossed by two great mountain systems, lying along and in general parallel with its eastern and western borders. The former—the Sierra Nevada—extends from near the northern border to about the 35th parallel. Its average elevation is from 5,000 to 8,000 feet, but there are occasional ridges of 9,000 and 10,000 feet altitude, and individual peaks that exceed 14,000 feet. The eastern slope descends quite abruptly to the Great Basin, itself 4,000 to 5,000 feet above the sea level; the western slope is much more gradual.

The Coast Range consists, like the Sierra Nevada, of numerous nearly parallel ridges, and extends the entire length of the State. Its general altitude is from 2,000 to 6,000 feet. These two systems are united near Mt. Shasta in the north by a series of cross ranges, and again in the south near the northern boundary of Los Angeles County, thus inclosing the great central valley, some 400 miles long and 60 miles wide, drained by the Sacramento and San Joaquin rivers, which, after their junction, find their way to the ocean through a gap in the Coast Range at the Golden Gate. South of this junction of the Sierra Nevada and Coast Range, the two systems are continued as a single one, running in a generally southeasterly direction toward the Colorado River, sending off, however, at about the middle of its length, a branch to the south, known as the San Jacinto