Nitidulidae and Kateretidae (Coleoptera: Cucujidae) of the Maritime provinces of Canada. I. New records from Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island

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Abstract—The Nitidulidae and Kateretidae of the Maritime provinces of Canada are surveyed. Forty-eight species are now known to occur in the region. Twenty-six are newly recorded in Nova Scotia and nine are newly recorded on Prince Edward Island. One Palearctic species, Soronia grisea (L.), is reported for only the second time in North America. Six other nonnative species have been intercepted. One new synonym, Glischrochilus sanguinolentus sanguinolentus (Olivier, 1790) (= Glischrochilus sanguinolentus rubromaculatus (Reitter, 1873) syn. nov.), is designated. Cape Breton and Prince Edward Island appear to have a depauperate fauna, perhaps reflecting an island-related diminution of species, a comparative lack of collection effort, or a combination of both. An examination of the Nova Scotia fauna indicates several distribution patterns within the province. Introduced species constitute a sizeable component of the region’s fauna, with four new introductions being reported here.

Résumé—Cet article examine le Nitidulidae et le Kateretidae des provinces maritimes du Canada. Jusqu’à présent, on a dénoté la présence de 48 espèces dans la région. Vingt-six espèces sont nouvellement recensées en Nouvelle-Écosse et neuf à l’Île-du-Prince-Édouard. Une espèce paléarctique, le Soronia grisea (L.), a été rapportée pour seulement la deuxième fois en Amérique du Nord. On a identifié six autres espèces non indigènes. On désigne un nouveau synonyme, Glischrochilus sanguinolentus sanguinolentus (Olivier, 1790) (= Glischrochilus sanguinolentus rubromaculatus (Reitter, 1873) syn. nov.). Le Cap Breton et l’Île-du-Prince-Édouard semblent avoir une faune appauvrie, dont la diminution des espèces pourrait être attribuable aux faits que ces territoires sont des îles, à un manque d’échantillonnage une fois comparé à d’autres régions, ou à un mélange des deux. Un examen de la faune de la Nouvelle-Écosse présente plusieurs modèles de distribution à travers la province. Les espèces présentées, dont quatre nouvellement rapportées, constituent un important composant de la faune de la région.

Introduction

Despite considerable economic importance and diversity, the Nitidulidae and Kateretidae (Coleoptera: Cucujidae) have received comparatively little scientific attention. The last monograph on the Nitidulidae in North America (in which Kateretidae were considered a subfamily of Nitidulidae) was published in 1943 (Parsons 1943), and research since then has been sporadic. In the Maritime provinces of Canada there is a particular dearth of recorded information. McNamara (1991) recorded only 15 species from Nova Scotia, 3 from Prince Edward Island, and 13 from New Brunswick, a small fraction of the ~100 species then known in Canada.

In North America, 173 species of Nitidulidae and 11 species of Kateretidae are known (Marske and Ivie 2003). Many are important components of forests, either as part of the saproxylic fauna (Alexander 2004) or as vectors of forest...
diseases (Cease and Juzwik 2001). Species of *Meligethes* are potential pests of agricultural crops (Mason *et al.* 2003), while *Nitidula*, *Omosita*, and *Carpophilus* spp. are found on carrion and can be of utility in forensic entomology (Smith 1986). Some species of *Carpophilus* are pests of stored dried products or commercial field crops (Hinton 1945; Dobson 1954).

Due to the economic and ecological importance of these families, and as part of continuing efforts to document the beetle biodiversity of the Maritime provinces, a survey of the nitidulid and kateretid faunas of the region was undertaken. The present work reports new records from Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island and examines the region’s fauna in general. New nitidulid and kateretid records from New Brunswick will be reported in a forthcoming paper. Also in a forthcoming paper, two new species of *Epuraea* from Nova Scotia will be described.

**Methods and conventions**

During ongoing research on the Coleoptera fauna of the Maritime provinces of Canada, 2262 specimens of Nitidulidae and Kateretidae originating in Nova Scotia and 245 from Prince Edward Island were examined and identified. Additional published records were also integrated. Abbreviations of collections referred to in this study are as follows:

- **ACNS** Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, Kentville, Nova Scotia
- **ACPE** Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island
- **CBU** Cape Breton University, Sydney, Nova Scotia
- **CGMC** Christopher G. Majka collection, Halifax, Nova Scotia
- **CNC** Canadian National Collection of Insects, Arachnids and Nematodes, Ottawa, Ontario
- **DAL** Biology Department, Dalhousie University, Halifax, Nova Scotia
- **DHWC** David H. Webster collection, Kentville, Nova Scotia
- **GSC** Gary Selig collection, Bridgewater, Nova Scotia
- **JCC** Joyce Cook collection, North Augusta, Ontario
- **JOC** Jeffrey Ogden collection, Truro, Nova Scotia
- **MZHF** Finnish Museum of Natural History, Helsinki, Finland
- **NSAC** Nova Scotia Agricultural College, Bible Hill, Nova Scotia
- **NSMC** Nova Scotia Museum, Halifax, Nova Scotia
- **NSNR** Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources, Shubenacadie, Nova Scotia
- **SMU** Saint Mary’s University, Halifax, Nova Scotia
- **STFX** St. Francis Xavier University, Antigonish, Nova Scotia
- **UPEI** University of Prince Edward Island, Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island

The number of specimens is indicated in parentheses. Where the number of specimens is not specified, it is assumed to be one. Where there are fewer than 10 records, all are reported. Where there are more than 10, a summary of specimens examined is given and the earliest collections are noted.

Distribution is reported on a county-by-county basis with counties grouped into subregions, which are **Northern NS** (consisting of Cumberland, Colchester, Pictou, and Antigonish counties), **Cape Breton** (consisting of Inverness, Victoria, Cape Breton, and Richmond counties), **Eastern Shore** (consisting of Guysborough and Halifax counties and Sable Island2), **South Shore** (consisting of Lunenburg, Queens, Shelburne, and Yarmouth counties), **Bay of Fundy** (consisting of Digby, Annapolis, Kings, and Hants counties), and **Prince Edward Island** (consisting of Prince, Queens, and Kings counties). While these are approximations, they allow for a ready way to represent distributions that mirror (albeit imperfectly) the physiographic ecodistricts of the provinces. The “NS distribution” column (Table 1) indicates possible distribution patterns in Nova Scotia.

In this publication we employ the name Kateretidae, in lieu of Brachypteridae (Lawrence and Newton 1995) or Cateretidae, based on the ruling by the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature (ICZN 1999). A forthcoming publication by A.R. Cline will

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2Sable Island is formally part of Halifax Co.; however, it is treated separately herein because geographically and faunistically it is distinct from other parts of the county and province.
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### Nova Scotia

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elaborate further the reasons for adopting this usage.

Results

The established (native and introduced) nitisulid and kateretid faunas of the Maritime provinces are summarized in Table 1. Three species of Kateretidae and 45 species of Nitidulidae have been recorded. Of these, 27 are newly recorded in Nova Scotia and 9 are newly recorded on Prince Edward Island. Overall, 42 species have been found in Nova Scotia and 13 have been found on Prince Edward Island. The Palearctic species Soronia grisea (L.) is reported for only the second time in North America, representing the first record beyond the island of Newfoundland. Additionally, six other species of Nitidulidae have been intercepted in the region. In Nova Scotia there are 203 separate county records, while on Prince Edward Island the total is 19 (Table 1). In a forthcoming paper, we will describe two new species of Epuraea based on specimens collected in Nova Scotia. Their distributions are indicated in Table 1. Specific accounts of species follow.

Native and established introduced species

Kateretidae

Brachypterolus pulicarius
(L., 1758)

NOVA SCOTIA: 62 specimens examined from Annapolis, Cape Breton, Colchester, Cumberland, Halifax, Hants, Inverness, Kings, and Pictou counties (Table 1). The earliest record is from 1951 (Cape Breton Co., North Sydney, 27.v.1951, C.H. Lindroth, MZHF). PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND: 23 specimens examined from Kings, Prince, and Queens counties (Table 1). The earliest record is from 1966 (Prince Co., Kildare, 18.vii.1966, F.M. Cannon, ACPE).
An introduced Palearctic species first found in North America in 1918 in New York (Parsons 1943). Recorded across Canada from Alberta west to Newfoundland (McNamara 1991); in the United States, recorded south to Pennsylvania and west to Iowa and Wisconsin (Parsons 1943). Associated with *Linaria* (Scrophulariaceae) and *Fragaria* (Rosaceae) spp. (Parsons 1943). In the Maritime provinces, found on herbaceous vegetation in many different open habitats.

**Brachypterus urticae** (Fabr., 1792)

NOVA SCOTIA. Cumberland Co.: Amherst, 24.vi.1994, J. Ogden, NSNR.

Newly recorded in Nova Scotia. An introduced Palearctic species recorded across Canada from British Columbia west to Quebec and in Newfoundland (McNamara 1991); in the United States, recorded along the Atlantic seaboard south to the Smoky Mountains National Park in North Carolina and Tennessee and west to Missouri, Iowa, and Wisconsin. Also in Colorado, Washington, and California (Parsons 1943). In Europe, found throughout much of the continent, including Great Britain, south to Greece and east to Russia. Introduced in North America prior to 1879 (Horn 1879; Parsons 1943). Associated with nettle (*Urtica dioica* L.) (Urticaceae) (Hamilton 1894).

**Heterhelus sericans** (LeConte, 1869)


Newly recorded in Nova Scotia. Recorded in Canada from British Columbia, Ontario,
Quebec, and Newfoundland (McNamara 1991); recorded in the United States south to North Carolina and Tennessee and west to Kansas (Parsons 1943). Specimens were principally collected in deciduous forests, with individuals frequently associated with blossoms of *Sambucus racemosa* L. (Caprifoliaceae), *Diervilla lonicera* P. Mill. (Caprifoliaceae), *Prunus virginiana* L. (Rosaceae), *Crategus* spp. (Rosaceae), and *Cornus alterniflora* L.f. (Cornaceae).

**Nitidulidae: Cillaeinae**

*Conotelus obscurus* Erichson, 1843


Newly recorded in Nova Scotia and on Prince Edward Island. Recorded in Canada from Manitoba east to New Brunswick (McNamara 1991). Recorded in the United States south to Alabama, Louisiana, South Carolina, and Georgia, west to Arkansas, Kansas, Missouri, and Iowa; also in Colorado (Parsons 1943). Associated with *Althea rosea* L. (Malvaceae), *Convolvulus arvensis* L. (Convolvulaceae), and *Calystegia sepium* (L.) R. Br. (Convolvulaceae). On Prince Edward Island and in Nova Scotia, found on *C. sepium*. McNamara (1991) recorded this species from Nova Scotia; however, no specimens examined by McNamara could be located, nor are there published records from the province. The records reported above thus establish the presence of this species in Nova Scotia.

*Colopterus truncatus* (Randall, 1838)

**NOVA SCOTIA:** 124 specimens examined from Cape Breton, Colchester, Cumberland, Guysborough, Halifax, Kings, Lunenburg, Queens, Victoria, and Yarmouth counties (Table 1). The earliest record is from 1945 (Lunenburg Co.: Bridgewater, 19.vi.1945, Department of Forestry, NSMC).

Recorded in Canada from the Yukon and British Columbia east to Nova Scotia (McNamara 1991); found throughout the United States south through central America to Brazil and in the West Indies from Puerto Rico and Guadeloupe (Parsons 1943). In Nova Scotia, found in many different habitats: on flowers and vegetation and at sap on both deciduous and coniferous trees.

**Nitidulidae: Carpophilinae**

*Carpophilus brachypterus* (Say, 1825)


Newly recorded in Nova Scotia. Recorded in Canada from Manitoba east to Quebec (McNamara 1991) and in the United States south to North Carolina and west to Texas, Nebraska, Kansas, Iowa, and South Dakota (Parsons 1943). Found on flowers and at sap (Downie and Arnett 1996). In Nova Scotia, primarily found in deciduous forests except for one specimen (Anti Dam Lake) in a stand of black spruce (*Picea mariana* (Mill.) B.S.P.) (Pinaceae). In North Alton, found under *Populus tremuloides* Michx. (Salicaceae) bark in association with *Carpophilus sayi* Parsons.

*Carpophilus marginellus* Motschulsky, 1858

**NOVA SCOTIA.** Cape Breton Co.: Sydney, 17.iii.2006, (24), D. Holland, NSMC. **PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.** Queens Co.: Charlottetown, 7.viii.1998, (2), M.E.M. Smith, ACPE; Charlottetown, 15.v.2001, (6), M.E.M. Smith, ACPE.

Newly recorded from Prince Edward Island and Nova Scotia. This adventive species originates in Southeast Asia and is often associated with dried stored products. In Canada, recorded from Manitoba east to Quebec (McNamara 1991). In the United States, recorded from New
Hampshire, Vermont (Chandler 2001), New Jersey, Ohio, Georgia, and California; also in Florida and Nevada (Downie and Arnett 1996). In Great Britain and Scandinavia it has moved and successfully adapted from dried products to outdoor environments such as compost heaps (Hammond 1974; Ødegaard and Tømmerås 2000), while in Australia it has colonized peach and nectarine orchards (James et al. 2000). The specimens from Prince Edward Island were found in storerooms of hotels where foodstuffs are kept, indicating their arrival in association with these items. The specimens from Nova Scotia are established in a food-processing facility. Described by Fall (1910) as *Carpophilus nitens* from the vicinity of Mobile, Alabama, suggesting a likely introduction at the port there.

**Carpophilus sayi** Parsons, 1943


Newly recorded in Nova Scotia. In Canada, recorded from Manitoba and Quebec (McNamara 1991). In the United States, recorded south to Georgia, west to Texas and New Mexico, and north to Iowa; also from North Carolina, Tennessee, and California (Parsons 1943). Frequently taken at sap (Downie and Arnett 1996) and associated with oak wilt fungus mats (Cease and Juzwik 2001). In Nova Scotia, most specimens were collected on freshly split trembling aspen (*Populus tremuloides*) except one (Bridgewater) collected on a red oak (*Quercus rubra* L.) (Fagaceae).

**Nitidulidae: Epuraeinae**

**Epuraea adumbrata** Mannerheim, 1852


Newly recorded in Nova Scotia. In Canada, recorded from Northwest Territories, British Columbia, Alberta, and Quebec (McNamara 1991); in the United States, primarily a northern species found from Alaska south to Washington and Colorado and on the eastern seaboard from New York south to North Carolina (Parsons 1943). In Nova Scotia, found at sap of trembling aspen (*Populus tremuloides*) and linden (*Tilia europa L.*) (Tiliaceae).

**Epuraea aestiva** (L., 1758)

**NOVA SCOTIA:** 69 specimens examined from Cumberland, Guysborough, Kings, Halifax, Hants, Inverness, Queens, Richmond, and Yarmouth counties (Table 1). The earliest record is from 1960 (*Kings Co.:* Cambridge Station, 14.v.1960, D.H. Webster, DHWC).


Newly recorded in Nova Scotia and on Prince Edward Island. This Holarctic species is widely distributed in Europe, northern Asia, and many parts of the United States (Parsons 1943; Downie and Arnett 1996); in Canada, recorded from British Columbia east to Quebec. In Nova Scotia, found in a great variety of forested and open environments on flowers of trees and shrubs, in compost piles, and attracted to sap.

**Epuraea avara** (Randall, 1838)

**NOVA SCOTIA.** Annapolis Co.: Annapolis Royal, 26.vii.1928, W.J. Brown, CNC.

Recorded from Alaska, the Yukon, and British Columbia east to Nova Scotia and Newfoundland, south to California, Nevada, New Mexico and South Carolina (Parsons 1943; McNamara 1991). Found at sap of *Acer* (Aceraceae) and *Betula* (Betulaceae) spp. (Parsons 1943).

**Epuraea erichsoni** Reitter, 1873

**NOVA SCOTIA:** 29 specimens examined from Annapolis, Antigonish, Colchester, Digby, Halifax, Kings, Lunenburg, and Pictou counties (Table 1). The earliest record is from 1990 (*Colchester Co.:* Masstown, 15.vi.1990, T.D. Smith, NSNR).

Newly recorded in Nova Scotia. In Canada, recorded from British Columbia and the Northwest Territories east to Quebec (McNamara 1991); in the United States, recorded south to Florida and west to Texas and Nebraska (Parsons 1943). Found at sap, under bark, and later...
in the season on flowering trees, shrubs, and plants (Parsons 1943). Associated with old-growth forest stands (Zeran et al. 2006). In Nova Scotia found at sap, primarily in deciduous forests.

**Epuraea flavomaculata**
*Mäklin, 1853*


Newly recorded in Nova Scotia and on Prince Edward Island. Recorded from Alaska and Alberta east to New Brunswick (McNamara 1991), south to New Hampshire and west to Michigan, and in New Mexico (Parsons 1943). In Nova Scotia, found attracted to fluids associated with a decomposing pig (*Sus scrofa* L.) and at sap on trembling aspen (*Populus tremuloides*).

**Epuraea labilis**
*Erichson, 1843*

**NOVA SCOTIA:** 269 specimens examined from Annapolis, Antigonish, Cape Breton, Colchester, Cumberland, Digby, Guysborough, Halifax, Hants, Inverness, Kings, Lunenburg, Pictou, Queens, Shelburne, and Yarmouth counties (Table 1). The earliest records are from 1965 (Lunenburg Co.: Bridgewater, 10.v.–30.vi.1965, B. Wright, (46), NSMC).

In Canada, recorded in British Columbia, Manitoba, Ontario, Quebec, and Nova Scotia (McNamara 1991); in the United States, recorded south to California, Nevada, New Mexico, Texas, and Florida (Parsons 1943). In Nova Scotia, found on flowers and at sap on many species of deciduous and coniferous trees.

**Epuraea parsonsi**
*Connell, 1981*


**Epuraea peltoides**
*Horn, 1879*

**NOVA SCOTIA.** Queens Co.: Medway River, 13.vii.1993, J. and T. Cook, JCC.

Newly recorded in Nova Scotia. In Canada, recorded from Alberta east to Quebec (McNamara 1991); in the United States, recorded south to Virginia and west to Indiana and Wisconsin (Parsons 1943). Bionomics not recorded; specimens collected in the United States are from fruit traps and brown sugar / molasses traps. Likely to frequent sap flows and decaying vegetable matter.

**Epuraea planulata**
*Erichson, 1843*


Newly recorded in Nova Scotia. Recorded from Alaska and British Columbia east to New Brunswick (McNamara 1991), south to Washington, Nevada, and Colorado, and in North Carolina (Parsons 1943). Bionomics not recorded. In Nova Scotia, found in both coniferous forests and a compost heap.

**Epuraea rufida**
*(Melsheimer, 1846)*


Newly recorded in Nova Scotia. In Canada, recorded from Ontario and Quebec (McNamara 1991); in the United States, recorded south to New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Massachusetts, North Carolina, Alabama (Parsons 1969), and Maine (Chandler 2001). Larvae and adults probably feed on fungal spores that are parasitic on trees (Parsons 1969). Specimens in the United States collected under bark and in fermenting traps.

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**Epuraea rufomarginata**
Stephens, 1830

= *Epuraea boreades* Parsons, 1967


Newly recorded in Nova Scotia. Recorded from Maine, New Hampshire, and Wisconsin in the United States, and Ontario, Quebec, and New Brunswick in Canada (Parsons 1967); also in British Columbia (McNamara 1991). Found on balsam fir (*Abies balsamea* L. Mill.) (Pinaceae), western larch (*Larix occidentalis* Nutt.) (Pinaceae), and shore pine (*Pinus contorta* Doug.) (Pinaceae) (Parsons 1967).

The Nearctic species *E. boreades* was placed in synonymy with the Palearctic species *E. rufomarginata* by Audisio (1993), who now regards the species as Holarctic in distribution. In Europe it is associated with *Uredinales* (Basidiomycetes) fungi. Larvae have been found in *Daldinia concentrica* (Bolton: Fr.) Ces. & De Not. (Xylariaceae) in forests of *Abies, Pinus, Picea*, and *Larix* spp. (Audisio 1993).

**Epuraea terminalis**
Mannerheim, 1843


Newly recorded in Nova Scotia. A Holarctic species found across Europe east to Siberia. In North America from Alaska, British Columbia, and the Yukon east to New Brunswick (McNamara 1991) and south to Colorado, Wisconsin, and Maine (Parsons 1943). In Finland, found at sap on birch (*Betula* spp.) and associated with oak wilt fungus mats (Parsons 1967). In Nova Scotia, found at sap on trembling aspen (*Populus tremuloides*).

**Epuraea truncatella**
Mannerheim, 1846

**NOVA SCOTIA:** 81 specimens examined from Annapolis, Antigonish, Cape Breton, Colchester, Cumberland, Guysborough, Halifax, Hants, Kings, Pictou, and Queens counties (Table 1). The earliest record is from 1988 (*Cumberland Co.*: Wentworth, 29.viii.1988, B. Wright, NSMC).

Newly recorded in Nova Scotia. In Canada, recorded from the west coast east to Quebec and in Newfoundland and Labrador (McNamara 1991); in the United States, recorded in Alaska and south to California, Nevada, Colorado, and New Mexico and east to Indiana, West Virginia, Virginia (Parsons 1943), New Hampshire, and Maine (Chandler 2001). In Nova Scotia, found at sap on trembling aspen (*Populus tremuloides*) and under bark of fallen white pine (*Pinus strobus* L.) (Pinaceae).

**Epuraea umbrosa**
Horn, 1879

**NOVA SCOTIA.** Cumberland Co.: New Yarmouth, 17.vi.1994, D. Kehler, NSMC.

Newly recorded in Nova Scotia. A southern species found from Texas through Oklahoma, Arkansas, and Georgia north to North Carolina and New York (Parsons 1943); in Canada, recorded in Quebec and New Brunswick (McNamara 1991). In Nova Scotia, collected in an old coniferous forest.

**Nitidulidae: Nitidulinae**

**Stelidota octomaculata** (Say, 1825)


Newly recorded in Nova Scotia. Found from Ontario and Quebec south to Florida, west to New Mexico and Arizona, and north to Nebraska, Michigan, Wisconsin (Parsons 1943), New Hampshire, and Maine (Chandler 2001). Found on decaying fruit and fungi; also on coral fungi (*Clavaria* sp.) (Clavariaceae) (Downie and Arnett 1996). In Nova Scotia, found on gilled fungi growing on white pine (*Pinus strobus*) and associated with decomposing pigs (*Sus*).
Omosita colon (L., 1758)

NOVA SCOTIA: 476 specimens examined from Cape Breton, Colchester, Cumberland, Digby, Halifax, Kings, Lunenburg, Queens, and Victoria counties (Table 1). The earliest record is from 1920 (Colchester Co.: Truro, 8.ix.1920, NSAC). PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND. Queens Co.: North Rustico, 26.vi.2003, C.G. Majka, CGMC.

Newly recorded in Prince Edward Island. This is an introduced Palearctic species. In Canada, recorded from British Columbia east to Newfoundland (McNamara 1991); recorded throughout much of the United States south to Mexico (Parsons 1943). Found on dry carrion, bones, hides, fungi, and decaying material (Downie and Arnett 1996).

Omosita discoidea (Fabr., 1775)


McNamara (1991) included this species in the reported Nova Scotia fauna apparently on the basis of a specimen collected on 14.vi.1977 at West Light on Sable Island, Nova Scotia, by Barry Wright (NSMC), which was determined as O. discoidea by E. Becker and published in Wright (1989). Subsequent examination indicates that this specimen is O. colon (L.), a very abundant species on Sable Island (279 specimens examined). Hence this earlier report must be considered erroneous. The present records, however, establish the presence of O. doscoidea in Nova Scotia. This adventive Palearctic species is widely distributed in Europe and was imported to the Pacific coast of North America prior to 1879 (Horn 1879). Parsons (1943) speculated that it may also have been introduced in New Jersey and Maryland. It is now widely distributed in the United States (Parsons 1943) and in Canada from British Columbia west to Newfoundland (McNamara 1991). Feeds on dry carrion, bones, hides, fungi, and decaying vegetation (Downie and Arnett 1996). In Nova Scotia, found on decaying pigs (Sus scrofa) and bones of white-tailed deer (Odocoileus virginianus (Zimmerman)).
This is an introduced Palearctic species. In Canada, recorded from British Columbia east to Newfoundland; in the United States, recorded south to Pennsylvania and west to Kansas, Wisconsin, and Montana (Parsons 1943). Associated with bones and carrion (Downie and Arnett 1996). In Nova Scotia, found in association with decomposing pigs (Sus scrofa) and cows (Bos taurus L.).

*Soronia grisea* (L., 1758)


Newly recorded in Nova Scotia. This adventive Palearctic species is broadly distributed in Europe east to Korea (Kim et al. 1994; Kim 2005). It was first recorded in North America by McNamara (1992) from collections in St. John’s, Corner Brook, and Pasadena, Newfoundland, in 1989 and 1990. This species is found feeding on sap and other fermented substances, under bark of deciduous trees, and on blossoms of trees (McNamara 1992). The above records represent only the second report of this species in North America.

McNamara (1992, p. 358) wrote of *S. grisea* that it “apparently represent(s) a recent introduction; the species seems to be now established in Newfoundland”. Brown (1967) collected extensively in Sydney, Nova Scotia, in 1965, where he found the introduced species *Brachypterolus pulicarius*, *Omosita colon*, and *Meligethes viridescens* (Fabr.), but not *S. grisea*, a possible indication that the latter species may have been recently introduced in the province.

In Nova Scotia, one of the specimens was found associated with Japanese walnut (*Juglans ailanthifolia* Carr.) (Juglandaceae). This East Asian and Japanese tree was first introduced into North America in 1870 and is now widely distributed across the continent, including New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, and Prince Edward Island in the Maritime provinces (Neilson 1930). This raises the possibility that *S. grisea* (which co-occurs with *J. ailanthifolia* in Korea) may have been introduced with the importation of nursery stock. Spence and Spence (1988) discussed the role of nursery stock importation with respect to Carabidae in British Columbia and Majka and Klimaszewski (2004) proposed that *Phloeocaris subtilissima* Mannerheim, 1830 (Staphylinidae), *Cephenium gallicum* Ganglbauer, 1899 (Scydmaenidae), and *Dromius fenestratus* (Fabr., 1794) (Carabidae) were all introduced to Nova Scotia via nursery stock.

**Phenolia grossa** (Fabr., 1801)


Newly recorded in Nova Scotia. In Canada, recorded in Ontario and Quebec (McNamara 1992); in the United States, recorded from Maine south to North Carolina and Alabama, west to Louisiana, Texas, Arkansas, and Missouri, north to Iowa and Minnesota, and in Wyoming (Parsons 1943). Found beneath bark and in fungi (Parsons 1943) and in oak wilt fungus mats (Cease and Juzwik 2001). In Nova Scotia, collected in coniferous forests (eastern hemlock (*Tsuga canadensis* (L.) Carr.) (Pinaceae), red spruce (*Picea rubens* Sarg.) (Pinaceae), black spruce (*Picea mariana*), and balsam fir (*Abies balsamea*)). Specimens from Eight Mile and Durland lakes were in decomposing fungi and those at Fifth Lake Bay were in decomposing red maple (*Acer rubrum* L.) (Aceraceae) in an old-growth hemlock forest. At Cobreille Lake, specimens were in a mixed *Acer* spp., *Quercus rubra*, and *Betula* spp. forest.

**Nitidulidae: Meligethinae**

*Meligethes canadensis* Easton, 1955


Newly recorded in Nova Scotia. In Canada, recorded from the Yukon and British Columbia east to Quebec (McNamara 1991); in the United States, recorded in Alaska, California, Colorado, and Utah (Easton 1955). No bionomic information is
available. In Nova Scotia, specimens were captured with an ultraviolet light trap.

**Meligethes nigrescens**

**Stephens, 1830**

**NOVA SCOTIA:** 44 specimens examined from Annapolis, Cape Breton, Colchester, Cumberland, Digby, Halifax, Kings, Lunenburg, Pictou, Richmond, and Yarmouth counties (Table 1). The earliest record is from 1987 (Digby Co.: Bartletts Beach, 2.viii.1987, J. Cook, JCC).

**PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND:** 66 specimens examined from Kings, Prince, and Queens counties (Table 1). The earliest record is from 1976 (Queens Co.: Kingston, vii.1976, L.S. Thompson, (2), ACPE).

This Holarctic species is found in the Old World in the British Isles, throughout Europe, North Africa, the Caucasus, and Arabia, east to central Siberia (Easton 1955; Hatch 1957). In Canada, recorded from the Yukon and British Columbia east to Nova Scotia; in the United States, found in the northeast, south to Maryland and Ohio, and in Oregon (Easton 1955). Found on a wide variety of plants, particularly *Trifolium pratense* L. (Fabaceae) (Easton 1955).

**Meligethes simplipes**

**Easton, 1947**

**NOVA SCOTIA:** 34 specimens examined from Annapolis, Cape Breton, Colchester, Cumberland, Digby, Halifax, Kings, Lunenburg, and Pictou counties (Table 1). The earliest record is from 1958 (Kings Co.: Greenwich, 27.v.1958, H.T. Stultz, (4), ACNS).

**PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND:** 29 specimens examined from Queens County (Table 1). The earliest records are from 1960 (Queens Co.: Charlottetown, 30.vi.1960, F.M. Cannon, ACPE; Charlottetown, 6.vii.1960, L.S. Thompson, ACPE).

In Canada, recorded from Ontario, Quebec, Nova Scotia, and Prince Edward Island (McNamara 1991); in the United States, recorded south to Ohio and Tennessee (Easton 1955). Found on the flowers of *Rubus canadensis* L. (Rosaceae) and *Syringa vulgaris* L. (Oleaceae) (Easton 1955). In Nova Scotia, recorded in open habitats and coniferous and deciduous forests; swept from the flowers and foliage of

**Meligethes viridescens**

**(Fabr., 1787)**

**NOVA SCOTIA:** 91 specimens examined from Annapolis, Colchester, Halifax, Kings, Lunenburg, and Pictou counties (Table 1). The earliest record is from 1945 (Halifax Co.: Halifax, 1.ix.1945, D.C. Ferguson, (2), NSMC).


**Nitidulidae: Cryptarchinae**

**Cryptarcha ampla**

**Erichsonae, 1843**

**NOVA SCOTIA:** 26 specimens examined from Cumberland, Kings, Lunenburg, and Queens counties (Table 1). The earliest records are from 1949 (Kings Co.: South Sawler, 14.v.1949 and 3.vi.1949, C.R. MacLellan, (3), ACNS).

Newly recorded in Nova Scotia. In Canada, recorded from British Columbia east to Quebec (McNamara 1991). In the United States, recorded south to Florida and Alabama, west to Texas, Missouri, Kansas, Iowa, Colorado, and California; not found in the southwest (Parsons 1943).
Found at sap of maple and willow (Parsons 1943), at sap flows of oaks and hickories, in fungi, and at lights (Downie and Arnett 1996). Associated with oak wilt fungus mats (Cease and Juzwik 2001). In Nova Scotia, collected on red oak (*Quercus rubra*).

**Cryptarcha concinna**

Melsheimer, 1853


Newly recorded in Nova Scotia. In Canada, recorded from British Columbia east to Quebec (McNamara 1991); in the United States, recorded from Massachusetts south to Florida and west to California and Oregon (Parsons 1943). In Nova Scotia, collected in window traps placed in red oak (*Quercus rubra*) and red maple (*Acer rubrum*); known from sap flows.

**Glischrochilus confluentus**

(Say, 1823)


Newly recorded in Nova Scotia. In Canada, recorded from Ontario and Quebec (McNamara 1991); in the United States, recorded south to Florida, west through Missouri, Kansas, and Iowa to Oregon, and in New Mexico (Parsons 1943). Common on fungi, flowers, and decaying or ripe fruit (Downie and Arnett 1996) and associated with oak wilt fungus mats (Cease and Juzwik 2001).

**Glischrochilus fasciatus**

(Olivier, 1790)


Newly recorded on Prince Edward Island. In Canada, recorded from British Columbia east to Newfoundland (McNamara 1991); in the United States, recorded from Maine, New Hampshire, and Massachusetts (Chandler 2001) south to Florida and west through Kansas to Utah and Wyoming (Parsons 1943). An abundant species throughout the Maritime provinces. Attracted to decaying fruit, vegetables, and the odor of anything sweet (Downie and Arnett 1996). Strongly associated with managed forest stands (Zeran et al. 2006).

**Glischrochilus sanguinolentus sanguinolentus**

(Olivier, 1790)

Same as *Glischrochilus sanguinolentus rubromaculatus* (Reitter, 1873) syn. nov.

NOVA SCOTIA: 318 specimens examined from Annapolis, Antigonish, Cape Breton, Colchester, Cumberland, Guysborough, Halifax, Hants, Inverness, Kings, Lunenburg, Pictou, and Queens counties (Table 1). The earliest record is from 1951 (Kings Co.: Hall’s Harbour,

Newly recorded on Prince Edward Island. In Canada from British Columbia to Nova Scotia; in the United States south to Florida, west to Texas, and north through Iowa to Wisconsin (Parsons 1943). Parsons (1943, p. 267) distinguished between *Glischrochilus s. sanguinolentus* and *G. s. rubromaculatus*; however, he wrote, “Although intergradations rarely occur, this variation is usually constant. It is hardly worth a name, however.” We agree that the distinction is unwarranted. Both “subspecies” are sympatric and there is gradation in the amount of dark and red pigmentation between the two forms. Although it has not been possible to examine the type specimens, we have examined the genitalia of representatives of both subspecies and have found absolutely no differences in shape and composition of the tegmen, median lobe, and internal sac sclerites. We therefore feel confident that there are no differences between these “subspecies” that warrant subspecific status and consequently designate *G. s. rubromaculatus* (Reitter, 1873) **syn. nov.** as a junior synonym of *G. s. sanguinolentus* (Olivier, 1790).

The nominate form may simply represent a recessive colour variant. In Nova Scotia, 22% of specimens (*n* = 315) are of the “*sanguinolentus*” form, similar to the proportion that might be expected if this form was homozygous for a recessive allele. Genetic research could help resolve this question.

In Nova Scotia, both forms are abundant in coniferous forests and are attracted to sap from broken limbs, stumps, and fallen logs of spruce (*Picea* spp.) and pine (*Pinus* spp.). Also found on polypore fungi (*Polyporaceae*) on conifers and occasionally at sap from deciduous trees (*Populus tremuloides* and *Quercus rubra*). Frequently found on *Fomes fomentarius* (L., ex Fr.) Kickx (*Polyporaceae*) (Matthewman and Pielou 1971) and associated with old-growth forest stands (Zeran et al. 2006) and oak wilt fungus mats (Cease and Juzwik 2001).

**Glischrochilus siepmanni**

Brown, 1932

**NOVA SCOTIA:** 32 specimens examined from Annapolis, Antigonish, Cumberland, Colchester, Cape Breton, Halifax, Lunenburg, Queens, Yarmouth, Kings, and Hants counties (Table 1). The earliest record is from 1961 (Kings Co.: Kentville, 21.vi.1961, D.H. Webster, DHWC). **PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND. Queens Co.: St. Patricks, 27.vi.2003, C.G. Majka, (10), CGMC.**

Newly recorded in Nova Scotia and on Prince Edward Island. In Canada, recorded from British Columbia to New Brunswick (McNamara 1991); in the United States, recorded south to New York, west through Michigan, Kansas, and Iowa and in Oregon (Parsons 1943). Found in coniferous stands (eastern hemlock (*Tsuga canadensis*), white pine (*Pinus strobus*), red spruce (*Picea rubens*), black spruce (*Picea mariana*), and balsam fir (*Abies balsamea*)), on deciduous trees (trebling aspen (*Populus tremuloides*), white birch (*Betula papyrifera* Marsh.) (*Betulaceae*), and red oak (*Quercus rubra*)), and in open areas (meadow, hayfield, back yard). Also found on polypore fungi on white birch, on a dead cow (*Bos taurus*), and attracted to black bear (*Ursus americanus* Pallas) dung. Associated with oak wilt fungus mats (Cease and Juzwik 2001).

**Glischrochilus vittatus** (Say, 1835)


Newly recorded in Nova Scotia. In Canada, recorded from British Columbia to Quebec (McNamara 1991); in the United States, recorded south to California, Nevada, Utah, and Colorado and in North Carolina (Parsons 1943), New Hampshire, and Maine (Chandler 2001). Under the bark of *Pinus* spp. (Downie and Arnett 1996).

**Intercepted species**

In Nova Scotia, specimens of *Carpophilus dimidiatus* (Fabr., 1792), *Carpophilus hemipterus* (L., 1758), and *Carpophilus lugubris* Murray, 1864 have been found in grocery stores on corn, *Zea mays* L. (*Poaceae*), imported from the United States. *Carpophilus corticus* Erichson, 1843 and *Carpophilus antiquus* (Melshheimer, 1844) have also been found infesting stored food products in eating establishments. On Prince Edward Island, a specimen of *Carpophilus hemipterus* (Fabr., 1758) was found.

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on pineapple, *Ananas comosus* (L.) (Bromeliaceae). None of these species occur naturally in the Maritime provinces, nor is there evidence that they have become established.

**Discussion**

Results indicate that the Maritime provinces support a more robust nitidulid and kateretid fauna (48 species) than hitherto reported. Although the earliest records date from 1913, many specimens in regional collections had hitherto been undetermined. Contemporary studies employing mass collection techniques such as flight intercept traps, Lindgren funnel traps, and car nets have dramatically increased the number of specimens available for study, particularly in Nova Scotia, which has over nine times the number of specimens collected on Prince Edward Island.

Three species, *Epuraea helvola* Erichson, 1843, *Epuraea obliquus* Hatch, 1962, and *Lobiopa undulata* (Say, 1825), have been recorded in New Brunswick but not in Nova Scotia. Details of these records will be provided in a future publication. These species should be looked for in Nova Scotia to ascertain whether New Brunswick is really the eastward extent of their distribution. Eighteen native species have been recorded in Nova Scotia and not in New Brunswick. The absence of records of the majority of these species is in all probability due to a dearth of collecting in New Brunswick.

Only 12 native species have been recorded on Cape Breton Island (33% of the mainland fauna), while on Prince Edward Island 8 species have been found (22% of the neighbouring mainland fauna). This may reflect an island-related diminution of species, a comparative lack of collection effort, or a combination of both. In comparison, for the more extensively studied Coccinellidae, the Cape Breton Island and Prince Edward Island faunas represent (respectively) 41% and 39% of the native mainland fauna (Majka and McCorquodale 2006), perhaps indicating that collection efforts for sap beetles on Cape Breton and Prince Edward islands have been less than adequate.

The examination of species distributions within Nova Scotia is a first step towards understanding how faunal distributions may reflect underlying geographic, phytogeographic, physiographic, climatic, historical, and other factors that help structure the detailed distribution of a species. In the case of some species (see the “NS distribution” column in Table 1), there are sufficient data that provisional interpretations can be proposed. There are 24 species that are (i) widespread (*i.e.*, found in all principal areas of the province); (ii) confined to mainland Nova Scotia (*i.e.*, not found on Cape Breton Island); (iii) found in western portions of the province, west of the Cobequid highlands; (iv) found in southwestern portions of the province; (v) distributed along the coast (reflecting the primarily coastal distribution of food plants); and (vi) confined to specific localities (Halifax or Sydney) reflecting an anthropochorous history. These distributions, and the environmental and other factors they reflect, should be investigated to test these hypotheses. In the case of the remaining 19 species, the current data are insufficient to ascertain distribution patterns.

The county and regional totals in Table 1 give some indication of the adequacy of the collection effort. At the upper end of the spectrum are counties such as Halifax (26 species), Kings (22 species), and Cumberland counties (18 species), while Victoria (2 species), Richmond (2 species), Shelburne (3 species), and Inverness counties (4 species) are at the lower end.

Nonnative species are an important component of the fauna of the Maritime provinces. Of the 47 Nitidulidae and Kateretidae found in the region, 9 species (19%) are introduced. In Nova Scotia, 14.6% of the overall beetle fauna consists of introduced species, while on Prince Edward Island the figure is 18.5% (C.G. Majka, unpublished data). We recently report *Brachypiterus urticae*, *Carpophilus marginellus*, *Omosita discoidea*, and *Soronia grisea* as established in the region. As illustrated by the six exotic species that have not become established, others continue to arrive.

The Atlantic provinces of Canada have played a particularly prominent role with regard to the establishment of introduced species in North America. Studies by Brown (1940, 1950, 1967), Lindroth (1957), Hoebeke and Wheeler (1996a, 1996b, 2000, 2003), and Majka and Klimaszewski (2004) are just some that have contributed to this discussion. Majka and Klimaszewski (2004) discussed the introduction of *Meligethes viridescens* in Nova Scotia and Mason et al. (2003) drew attention to the threat that it poses to oilseed rape (*Brassica* spp.) in Canada. McCorquodale et al. (2005) and Majka et al. (2006) discussed the need for monitoring

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of invertebrate populations to detect introduced species.

The bionomics of many species, particularly those in the species-rich genus *Epuraea*, are poorly known. Zeran et al. (2006) drew attention to the fact that members of this genus have often not been identified to species in previous ecological studies and that species-level identifications are necessary to understand how sap beetles (particularly rare species) respond to environmental variables. Otherwise, possibly important ecological patterns may be obscured.

A number of nitidulids found in the Maritimes (*Coloceptor truncatus*, *Carpophilus* sayi, *Epuraea avara*, *E. terminalis*, *Glischrochilus sanguinolentus*, *G. fasciatus*, *G. quadrirugatus*, *G. stephanni*, and *Phenolia grossa*) are associated with oak wilt mats (*Ceratocystis fagacearum* (Bretz) Hunt) (Parsons 1967; Cease and Juzwik 2001). Nitidulids are the primary vectors of this disease and Cease and Juzwik (2001) identified the larger-bodied species (i.e., *Glischrochilus* spp.) as particularly important in potential dispersal. This dispersal phenomenon has not been investigated in the Maritime provinces but illustrates the importance of developing a knowledge of the bionomics of nitidulids and their kin found in this region.

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