

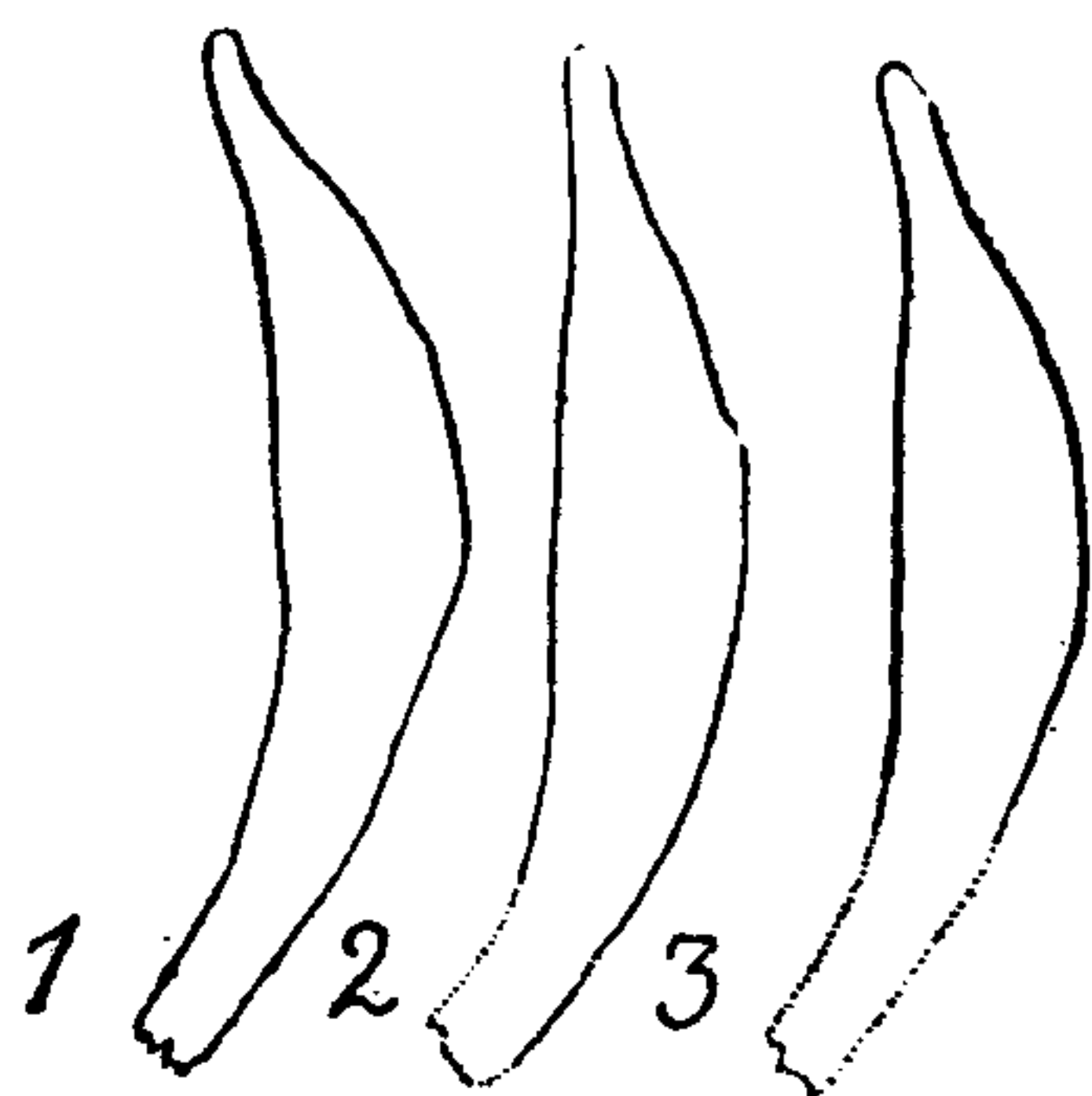
# ON THE 3 FORMS OF ODONTOCHILA SUBGENUS CHILONYCHA (CICIND, COL.)

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Since many years I have some doubts about the «specific» rank of *Odontochila* (*Chilonycha*) *auripennis* Lucas as the most remarkable characteristic point is drawn only from the golden coloration of the elytra. Since a good deal of years we know that there are 3 species of *Pogonostoma* in the island of Madagascar which have developed a golden subspecies each: *P. violaceum* sbsp. *fulgidilenne* Lesne, *P. cyanescens* sbsp. *auripenne* W. H., *P. elegans* (*coeruleum*) sbsp. *cupripenne* Lesne.



**Fig. 32.**—1. *Chil. chalybaea*.—2. Subsp. *auripennis*.—3. Subsp. *anguste-dilatata*.

Studying recently again the question of these *Pogonostoma*-forms I am coming to the results that we have to-day no reason anymore to treat *Odontochila* (*Chilonycha*) *auripennis* as something else but a subspecies of *Chilonycha chalybaea* Dej. The other subspecies I described under the name of sbsp. *anguste-dilatata* W. H. would become another golden subspecies of Dejean's species.

The typical *Odontochila* (*Chilonycha*) *chalybaea* Dej. differs from the 2 golden races—outside of the golden coloration of the elytra—by the finer and more uniform punctuation of the elytra: in the 2 golden races these single punctures of the elytra are becoming from the middle towards the base coarser and closer, from the middle towards the apex they become slowly less deep and less closely set; but also in regard of these differences of the elytral sculpture I don't believe anymore that it entitles us to separate such forms as «species» in the group of *Cicindelini*. What rests in regard of other differences between *Odontochila* (*Chilonycha*) *chalybaea* Dej. and the 2 golden forms has only a very relative value. One point

has to be noted still in this regard: that is the fact that Dejean's form is standing in some way in the middle between the 2 golden races, that means that sbsp. *auripennis* Lucas has the shape of the elytra in the same way as Dejean's priority form elongated, relatively little enlarged towards the apex and moderately convex behind the middle of their length. Also is the impression in front of the tip of the elytra in both of these forms relatively flat. My race *anguste-dilatata* has the elytra shorter, more dilated behind the middle, their convexity higher developed (showing a greater declivity behind). The head and the prothorax of *Odontochila* (*Chilonycha chalybaea* Dej. resemble at the other side in form and size more those of sbsp. *anguste-dilatata*.

All the 3 *Chilonycha* forms have a similar penis which is demonstrated en *fig.* 32, 1-3.

