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A Description of the Larva of *Scolopterus penicillatus* White
(Curculionidae: Eugnominae)

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THE Eugnominae, once considered a tribe of the Errirrhinae, are a very distinctive subfamily of the Curculionidae Phanerognatha. Most of the genera occur in Australasia and of these most are endemic to New Zealand.

Little is known about the biology of the sub-family and, as far as I am aware, there has been no published description of any of the larvae.

Mr R. A. Crowson, of Glasgow University, spent some time in New Zealand in 1956-1957. On two occasions he found larvae associated with pupae and teneral adults that were later identified by him and the late Sir G. A. K. Marshall, of the British Museum (Natural History) London, as *Scolopterus penicillatus* White. Both finds were made under the bark of a dead *Nothopanax* branch (Araliaceae) at Parahaki, New Zealand, in November, and at Nelson (1,000 feet), in January.

Mr Crowson generously permitted me to study this material and to make slides of several of the larvae, and I was fortunate to have my slides and drawings examined by Dr F. I. Van Emden, of the British Museum (Natural History) London, before his death.

The head cap (Fig. 6) has well marked sutures, no endocarina, five pairs of frontal setae and, in older larvae, two distinct pairs of ocelli. Apart from the head, the only sclerotisation is a small dorsal area of the prothorax (Fig. 1). The pedal lobes bear seven setae. The abdominal terga are divided into three parts; the post-terga bearing two long and three short setae. Bicameral spiracles are found on the prothorax and segments one to eight of the abdomen. The mouth parts are shown in Figs. 7-10. Probably their most striking feature is the small but prominent tooth near the middle of the cutting edge of the mandible.

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