

Genus *Ceratocapsus* Reuter

Elongate or oval dark brown species. Basal margin of head overlaps apical portion of pronotum. Eyes prominent, carina between them distinct. Pronotum and hemelytra smooth or punctate. Pubescence simple or both simple and sericeous.

Four species were collected, all are predaceous, and overwinter in the egg stage. The nymphs appear in early June and adults in early July. The adults are active throughout July and August and gradually die out by September.

KEY TO SPECIES OF *CERATOCAPSUS*

1. Pronotum and hemelytra smooth (Fig. 33) ..... *modestus* Uhler  
Pronotum and hemelytra punctate ..... 2
2. Hind femora pale yellow (Fig. 34) ..... *digitulus* Knight  
Hind femora brown or red ..... 3
3. Species dark brown, cuneus brown (Fig. 35) ..... *pumilus* (Uhler)  
Species reddish brown, cuneus reddish (Fig. 36) ..... *fuscinus* Knight

*Ceratocapsus modestus* (Uhler)  
(Fig. 33)

*Melina modesta* Uhler, 1887: 69.  
*Ceratocapsus modestus*: Smith, 1909: 161.

Length 4.3-4.5 mm; width 1.6-1.8 mm. Head light to dark brown, pronotum and scutellum dark brown; hemelytra light to dark brown; impunctate; pubescence simple with long and short hairs (Fig. 33).

Nymphs and adults prey on mites and aphids.

This species is distinguished by the impunctate pronotum and hemelytra, and by the simple, long and short pubescence (Fig. 33).

Distribution: eastern and central USA; Ontario, Québec, Manitoba, Saskatchewan.

*Ceratocapsus digitulus* Knight  
(Fig. 34)

*Ceratocapsus digitulus* Knight, 1923: 533.

Length 3.5-3.8 mm; width 1.6-1.8 mm. Head, pronotum, scutellum and hemelytra brown. Hemelytra and pronotum punctate. Dorsum with erect simple pubescence intermixed with closely appressed sericeous hairs. Legs pale yellow (Fig. 34).

Nymphs and adults prey on mites and aphids.

This species is distinguished by the pale yellow first and second antennal segments, and by the pale yellow femora.

Distribution: eastern and central USA; Manitoba, Ontario; now known to occur in Québec.

*Ceratocapsus pumilus* (Uhler)  
(Fig. 35)

*Melina pumila* Uhler, 1887: 69.  
*Ceratocapsus pumilus*: Van Duzee, 1909: 182.

Length 3.7-3.9 mm; width 1.5-1.7 mm. Head, pronotum, and hemelytra dark brown. Antennae mostly light brown. Pronotum and hemelytra punctate. Dorsum with erect simple pubescence intermixed with closely appressed sericeous hairs. Legs brown (Fig. 35).

Nymphs and adults prey on mites and aphids.

This is the most abundant species of *Ceratocapsus* in the apple orchards.

Distribution: eastern USA; Ontario, Québec.

*Ceratocapsus fuscinus* Knight  
(Fig. 36)

*Ceratocapsus fuscinus* Knight, 1923: 531.

Length 3.6-3.7 mm; width 1.5-1.6 mm. Head yellow; first and second antennal segments yellow. Pronotum and hemelytra reddish brown, cuneus reddish; punctate; pubescence similar to that of *pumilus*. Hind femur reddish (Fig. 36).

Nymphs and adults prey on mites and aphids.

This species is similar to *pumilus* in size and appearance but is more reddish.

Distribution: eastern USA; Ontario, now known to occur in Québec.