

A GENERIC REVISION OF THE TRIBE METHIINI
(COLEOPTERA, CERAMBYCIDAE)

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The longicorn tribe Methiini has long been in need of a thorough revisional study. A number of factors have combined to make this impractical. The most important of these has been the impossibility of obtaining an adequate amount of material for examination. Most of the species are rare and many are known only by the type specimens. Some of these it has not as yet been possible to examine. Those few species which are known in series exhibit a perplexing amount of individual variation, and single specimens, particularly in *Methia*, are often difficult to place. Biological facts are all but unknown for the majority of species since the representatives in most collections have been simply captured at light. However, although the time is still far from ripe for a comprehensive study of the group, it has seemed desirable to present a reclassification of the genera with the hope that it may lead to a more complete revision at some period in the not too distant future.

The tribe Methiini has had a confused history. Thomson (1860), who first proposed a higher category for the group, placed it in the subfamily Lamiinae (Lamiitae). This arrangement was accepted by Lacordaire (1872), LeConte (1873), and LeConte and Horn (1883), although at the same time the latter authors pointed to affinities with *Oeme* in the Cerambycinae. Lameere (1901) removed the group from the Lamiinae but made no suggestion as to its true position. Gahan (1904) agreed that the tribe was not Lamiine and referred it to the Cerambycinae near the Oemini. A few years later (1908) he reiterated this opinion, stating that the "Methiini . . . agree completely with the Cerambycid group Oemini, and ought to be incorporated in that group." Craighead (1923), on the basis of larval characters, confirmed the close relationship of the *Oeme* and *Methia* groups but took no stand as to the distinctiveness of the tribes. Recent workers have maintained the two tribes largely because they exhibit dissimilar habits, a few structural differences, and a different facies. Until the groups can be given a thorough comparative study, it would seem advisable to follow this current usage.

Tribe METHIINI Thomson

- Thomson, 1860, Class. Ceramb., pp. 128, 364, *Methiitae*.
 Thomson, 1864, Systema Ceramb., pp. 92, 341, *Methitae*.
 Lacordaire, 1872, Genera Coleopt., 9: 465, *Methiides*.
 LeConte, 1873, Smithson. Misc. Coll., XI, 265: 347.
 LeConte and Horn, 1883, Smithson. Misc. Coll., XXVI, 507: 333.
 Leng and Hamilton, 1896, Trans. Am. Ent. Soc., 23: 162.
 Lameere, 1901, Ann. Soc. Ent. Belg., 45: 315.
 Gahan, 1904, in: Distant, Insecta Transvaalensis, part 5, p. 108.
 Gahan, 1908, Ann. Mag. Nat. Hist., (8) 1: 162.
 Linsley, 1932, Pan-Pac. Ent., 8: 120.

Head short, front vertical; antennae slender, usually longer than the body in both sexes, scape more or less conical, second segment small, transverse, sometimes obsolete; eyes large, usually coarsely granulated, deeply emarginate or divided; mandibles short, broad at base; ligula corneous; palpi short, unequal, maxillary palpi usually truncate at apex. Pronotum cylindrical, rounded, or slightly angulate at sides; scutellum concave; anterior coxae prominent, subconical, cavities very narrow, not attaining posterior margin of coxae; intermediate coxae contiguous, cavities confluent and open to epimera. Elytra usually abbreviated, not entirely covering abdomen, apices rounded, rarely dehiscent; wings scarcely folded at apex. Legs slender; femora sometimes clavate; anterior tibiae arcuate with an oblique groove along inner side; tarsi short. Abdomen usually elongate and cylindrical, rarely greatly abbreviated, usually with six visible sternites in the male, five in the female.

The tribe Methiini is strictly an American group. The known genera may be separated as follows:

TABLE OF GENERA OF METHIINI

1. Eyes with dorsal and ventral lobes connected posteriorly by a line or by one or more rows of facets; second segment of antennae distinct but sometimes small; abdomen with sternites not imbricated at sides in female 2
- Eyes with dorsal and ventral lobes completely separated, not connected by a line or row of facets; second segment of antennae obsolete; abdomen with sternites imbricated at sides in female *Tessaropa*
2. Elytra gradually narrowing apically, suture entire; abdomen much longer than metathorax; posterior tarsi cylindrical, first segment at least twice as long as broad 3
- Elytra dehiscing suddenly from base, suture deeply arcuate; abdomen abbreviated, shorter than metathorax; posterior tarsi broad, flat, first segment barely longer than broad . *Coleomethia*

3. Antennae with basal segments not distinctly thickened, more slender than scape, third segment longer than scape; pronotum cylindrical or rounded at sides; posterior tarsi less than half as long as tibiae 4
- Antennae with basal segments thickened, as wide as scape, third segment shorter than scape; pronotum armed with an obtuse lateral tubercle; posterior tarsi more than half as long as tibiae *Pseudomethia*
4. Pronotum longer than broad, subcylindrical, sides parallel or very feebly convex; femore clavate *Styloxus*
- Pronotum as wide as or wider than long, sides rounded; femora slender, not clavate *Methia*

Genus TESSAROPA Haldeman

Tessaropa Haldeman, 1847, Proc. Am. Philos. Soc., 4: 375; Linsley, 1932, Pan-Pac. Ent., 8: 120.

Dysphaga LeConte, 1852, Jour. Acad. Nat. Sci. Phila., (2) 2: 143; Thomson, 1860, Class. Ceramb., p. 128; Thomson, 1864, Syst. Ceramb., p. 387; Lacordaire, 1872, Genera Coleopt. 9: 467; LeConte, 1873, Smithson. Misc. Coll., XI, 265: 348; LeConte and Horn, 1883, Smithson. Misc. XXVI, 507: 334; Leng and Hamilton, 1896, Trans. Am. Ent. Soc., 23: 162.

Tessaroptes Gemminger and Harold, 1873, Catal. Coleopt., 10: 3063.

Form slender, somewhat flattened. Head with vertex moderately impressed between antennal bases; antennae slender throughout; antennae longer than the body in both sexes, about twice as long as body in male, segments densely pilose, scape only moderately robust, subconical, second segment obsolete, third segment much longer than scape, subequal in length to fourth segment; eyes moderately finely granulated, widely separated above and below, completely divided, dorsal and ventral lobes not connected by a line or by a row of facets; palpi atrophied. Pronotum nearly as long as broad, sides rounded; scutellum longer than wide, narrowly rounded, posteriorly. Elytra distinctly longer than basal width, gradually narrowing apically, suture entire, apices separately rounded. Legs moderately short; femora very feebly clavate; anterior tibiae strongly bent, oblique sinus distinct, posterior tibiae sinuate, longer than femora; tarsi slender, subcylindrical, posterior pair short, distinctly less than half as long as tibiae, moderately broad, first segment short, not as long as following two segments together. Abdomen flattened, sternites imbricated at sides; fifth sternite hairy, deeply, angularly notched in female, broadly emarginate in male.

Genotype: *Tessaropa tenuipes* Haldeman (Thomson designation, 1864).

Tessaropa may be separated from all other genera in the tribe by the completely divided eyes, obsolete second antennal segment, and imbricated abdomen. The posterior tarsi are quite short with the first segment not as long as the following two united. Five species have been referred to the genus by recent writers. One of these, *debilis* Horn, should be transferred to *Methia*. The same is probably true of *bicolor* Horn, although the latter species is known to the writer only by description.

TESSAROPA TENUIPES Haldeman

Tessaropa tenuipes Haldeman, 1845, Proc. Acad. Nat. Sci. Phila., 1845: 126.

Tessaropa tenuipes, Haldeman, 1848, Proc. Am. Philos. Soc., 4:374.

Dysphaga tenuipes, LeConte, 1852, Jour. Acad. Nat. Sci. Phila., (2) 2: 143; LeConte, 1873, Smithson. Misc. Coll., XI, 265: 348; Horn, 1895, Proc. Calif. Acad. Sci., (2) 5: 247; Leng and Hamilton, 1896, Trans. Am. Ent. Soc., 23: 163; Girault, 1904, Ent. News, 15: 299 (habits); Craighead, 1923, Can. Dept. Agr. Bull. (n.s.) 27: 40 (larva); Knoll, 1932, Ent. News, 43: 62 (habits).

Tessaropa ventralis Haldeman, 1848, Proc. Am. Philos. Soc., 4:375.

Male: Color black, elytra yellowish brown at base, darker brown apically, abdominal sternites dark brown; pubescence thin, cinereous. HEAD narrower than base of elytra, dullish, moderately coarsely, closely punctured, clothed with fine, short, erect pubescence; eyes much more widely separated below than above, dorsal margin of lower lobe straight; antennae at least twice as long as body, scape moderately coarsely, closely punctured, remaining segments finely punctured. PRONOTUM widest behind the middle, surface finely, closely punctured with coarse punctures superimposed, pubescence long, erect, fine, moderately dense; stridulatory plate of mesonotum more or less evenly convex, without a median ridge. ELYTRA at least twice as long as pronotum, about half as long as abdomen; surface scabrous, without evident costae. LEGS slender; femora finely, closely punctured, sparsely clothed with fine, erect hairs; tibiae finely, closely punctured, moderately densely clothed with longer, erect hairs. ABDOMEN brown, sternites shining, finely punctured, sparsely clothed with fine, pale hairs. Length: 4.5-5 mm.

Female: Color black, abdomen wholly or partly yellowish; antennae but little longer than body. Length: 4.5-5.5 mm.

Type locality: Pennsylvania.

Distribution: Eastern North America: New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Indiana.

Genus COLEOMETHIA Linsley, new genus.

Form short, robust; integument coarsely punctate. Head with vertex moderately impressed between antennal bases; antennae slender throughout, longer than the body in both sexes, more than twice as long as body in male, segments densely pilose externally, scape subconical, without an apical cicatrix, second segment distinct, transverse, third segment much longer than scape, a little longer than fourth segment; eyes small, finely granulate, widely separated above and below, very deeply emarginate, nearly divided; maxillary palpi slender, acute at apex. Pronotum a little wider than long, rounded at sides; scutellum transverse, obtusely triangular. Elytra taken together not quite twice as long as basal width, dehiscing suddenly from base, suture arcuate, apices separated by nearly twice their width, inner angle obtuse, outer angle rounded; wings milky white. Legs elongate; femora very slender, not clavate; tibiae longer than femora, slightly swollen apically and clothed with dense, scopa-like pubescence; tarsi very short, broad, flat, posterior pair about one-eighth as long as tibiae, first segment barely longer than broad, shorter than following two segments together, segments two and three broader than long. Abdomen greatly abbreviated, much shorter than metathorax.

Genotype: *Methia evaniformis* Knull.

This genus may be readily distinguished from all other members of the tribe by the dehiscent elytra, greatly abbreviated abdomen (shorter than the metathorax), and the very short, broad, flat tarsi with the first segment barely longer than broad. From *Methia* it further differs in the widely separated eyes, coarse punctation, and acute maxillary palpi. The form of the elytra is much more suggestive of the tribe Rhinotragini than of any other known Methiini.

COLEOMETHIA EVANIFORMIS (Knull)

Methia evaniformis Knull, 1937, Ohio Jour. Sci., 37: 306, pl. 1, f. 3.

Male: Form short, stout; color black, antennae and their tubercles reddish-brown, elytra testaceous, legs piceous. HEAD narrower than base of elytra, coarsely, contiguously punctured, clothed with fine, short, erect pubescence; eyes separated more widely below than above; antennae about two and one-third times as long as body, scape moderately coarsely, closely punctured, moderately densely clothed with short, fine, erect pubescence, remaining segments finely punctured, densely pubescent, especially along outer margin. PRONOTUM widest at middle, surface coarsely, contiguously punctured with a transverse calloused area at base, pubescence moderately long, dense, fine; stridula-

tory plate of mesonotum more or less evenly convex, without a longitudinal ridge; prosternum transversely carinulate; metasternum coarsely, contiguously punctured at sides, more finely, sparsely on disk; metepisterna coarsely, contiguously punctured. ELYTRA longer and wider than pronotum; punctation fine, sparse at sides and in humeral area, moderately coarse, contiguous near suture. LEGS slender; femora finely punctured, clothed with moderately long, erect, pale hairs; tibiae finely, closely punctured, densely clothed with piceous hairs. Length: 5 mm.

Type locality: Davis Mountains, Texas.

Distribution: Texas: Davis and Chizos Mountains.

Through the kindness of Mr. Knull I have been able to examine a specimen of this extremely interesting species. In appearance and structure it is unique in the Methiini. According to Mr. Knull the species is quite active when disturbed and in appearance is suggestive of an evaniid wasp.

Genus PSEUDOMETHIA Linsley

Pseudomethia Linsley, 1937, Ent. News, 48: 65.

Form slender, small; integument finely punctate. Head with vertex moderately impressed between the antennal bases; antennae a little longer than body in male, scape subconical, basal segments thickened and bearing a vague, dorsal, longitudinal, elevated line, second segment nearly as long as broad, segments three and four as wide as scape, third segment a little shorter than scape, distinctly shorter than fourth segment, segments five to eleven filiform; eyes coarsely faceted, distinctly separated above and below, deeply emarginate but not divided; maxillary palpi slender, truncate at apex. Pronotum a little wider than long, sides armed with an obtuse, post-median, lateral tubercle; scutellum transverse, feebly concave. Elytra longer than basal width, gradually narrowed apically, suture entire, apices narrowly, separately rounded. Legs moderately short; posterior femora slender, not clavate; anterior tibiae straight, without a distinct oblique sinus, posterior tibiae not sinuate, but little longer than femora; posterior tarsi slender, subcylindrical, more than half as long as tibiae, first segment distinctly longer than following two together. Abdomen elongate, with six visible tergites and sternites.

Genotype: *Pseudomethia arida* Linsley (by original designation).

This genus differs from all other known members of the tribe in the basally thickened antennae with the third and fourth segments as wide as the scape, the short third segment of the antennae, the laterally tuberculate pronotum, and the elongate tarsi. The following is the only known species.

PSEUDOMETHIA ARIDA Linsley

Pseudomethia arida Linsley, 1937, Ent. News, 48: 66, fig.

Male: Color uniformly brownish testaceous, eyes black; integument feebly shining. HEAD as wide as base of elytra; eyes narrowly rounded beneath, less widely separated below than above, separated above by about the diameter of antennal scape, dorsal and ventral lobes connected posteriorly by three or four rows of facets; vertex finely, closely punctured with coarser punctures superimposed; antennae about one and one-fourth times as long as body, sparsely clothed with very short, fine, micropubesence with a few, scattered, long, erect, cilia intermixed. PRONOTUM dull, very finely, closely punctured with coarser punctures superimposed, surface clothed with short, fine, suberect, pale hairs intermixed with longer erect setae; stridulatory plate of mesonotum evenly convex, without a median longitudinal ridge. ELYTRA feebly shining, about twice as long as broad, not attaining apex of first abdominal tergite, surface very finely cribrate with coarser punctures superimposed, costae not evident, surface sparsely clothed with very fine, pale, subdepressed pubescence. LEGS dullish, very finely, densely punctured with coarser punctures superimposed, sparsely clothed with short, fine, pale, suberect hairs and with an intermixture of long erect setae. ABDOMEN shining; sternites finely, sparsely punctured and pubescent. Length: 7 mm.

Type locality: Ten miles west of Indio, California.

Genus STYLOXUS LeConte

Styloxus LeConte, 1873, Smithson. Misc. Coll., XI, 264: 239, 265: 348; LeConte and Horn, 1883, Smithson. Misc. Coll., XXVI, 507: 334; Leng and Hamilton, 1896, Trans. Am. Ent. Soc., 23: 162; Linsley, 1932, Pan-Pac. Ent., 8: 120, 122.

Idoemca Horn, 1880, Trans. Am. Ent. Soc., 8: 137; LeConte and Horn, 1883, Smithson. Misc. Coll., XXVI, 507: 334; Leng and Hamilton, 1896, Trans. Am. Ent. Soc., 23: 162.

Malthopia Casey, 1912, Mem. Coleopt., 3: 308.

Form elongate, slender, subcylindrical. Head with vertex deeply impressed between antennal tubercles; antennae slender throughout, nearly twice as long as body in male, about as long as body in female, second segment small, transverse, third segment longer than scape or fourth segment; eyes large, coarsely granulated, contiguous or narrowly separated in the male, distinctly separated in female, deeply emarginate but not divided; maxillary palpi truncate at apex. Pronotum distinctly longer than broad, sides parallel or a little obtuse; scutellum nearly as long as broad, subtriangular, narrowly rounded posteriorly.

Elytra much longer than basal width, sometimes covering most of abdomen, gradually narrowing to apices, suture entire, apices narrowly separated, rounded. Legs slender, posterior femora clavate; tibiae longer than femora; tarsi nearly one-half as long as tibiae, slender, subcylindrical, first segment more than twice as long as broad, about as long as following two together. Abdomen elongate, cylindrical, that of female with five visible sternites, the fifth hairy deeply, angularly excavated, fifth sternite of male broadly emarginate, revealing sixth sternite.

Genotype: *Styloxus lucanus* LeConte (by single reference).

Styloxus is very closely related to *Methia*, differing in the longer pronotum with the sides subparallel or feebly convex and in the clavate femora. Five species have been described, two from Texas (possibly not distinct), one from Arizona and southern California, one from California, and one from Lower California.

STYLOXUS LUCANUS LeConte

Styloxus lucanus LeConte, 1873, *Smithson. Misc. Coll.*, XI, 264: 240; Hamilton, 1885, *Trans. Am. Ent. Soc.*, 23: 162.

Male: Form moderately slender; color dark brown to reddish brown; pubescence pale, erect and suberect. HEAD nearly as wide as base of elytra; eyes rather broadly rounded beneath, widely separated beneath by at least greatest width of antennal scape, contiguous on vertex, dorsal and ventral lobes connected posteriorly by three rows of facets; vertex contiguously punctured, clothed with fine, pale, suberect hairs; antennae about twice as long as body, scape armed with a stout, apical tooth, clothed with fine pale hairs, those along inner side about as long as width of scape, second segment transverse, segments three to ten subequal in length, eleventh segment shorter. PRONOTUM longer than broad, surface scabrous, pubescence long, erect, moderately dense; stridulatory plate of mesonotum more or less evenly convex, without a median ridge but with a fine, median, longitudinal, impressed line. ELYTRA not quite three times as long as basal width, about three-fourths as long as abdomen; sides narrowed a little beyond middle; surface moderately coarsely, closely, shallowly punctured, humeri more finely punctured; pubescence fine, moderately short, suberect; apices separately rounded. LEGS moderately densely clothed with long, erect, pale, flying hairs. ABDOMEN with sternites very finely scabrous, clothed with short, fine, pale hairs. Length: 7-12 mm.

Female: Antennae shorter than the body, outer segments greatly abbreviated; eyes separated on vertex; elytra more elongate but not attaining apex of abdomen. Length: 8-11 mm.

Type locality: Cape San Lucas, Lower California.

Distribution: Cape Region of Lower California.

Genus METHIA Newman

Methia Newman, 1842, Entom., 1: 418; LeConte, 1852, Jour. Acad. Nat. Sci. Phila., (2) 2: 144; Thomson, 1860, Class. Ceramb., p. 128; Thomson, 1864, Systema Ceramb., p. 387; Lacordaire, 1872, Genera Coleopt., 9: 466; LeConte, 1873, Smithson. Misc. Coll., XI, 265: 348; LeConte and Horn, 1883, Smithson. Misc. Coll., XXVI, 507: 334; Leng and Hamilton, 1896, Trans. Am. Ent. Soc., 23: 162; Melzer, 1923, Rev. Mus. Paulista, 13: 529; Linsley, 1932, Pan-Pac. Ent., 8: 120.

Thia Newman, 1840, Entom., 1: 18.

Form slender, subcylindrical. Head with vertex moderately impressed between antennal bases; antennae slender throughout, longer than the body in both sexes, nearly twice as long as body in male, segments ciliate, scape subconical, second segment small but distinct, third segment longer than scape, subequal to or longer than fourth segment; eyes large, coarsely faceted, contiguous or nearly contiguous above and below in male, a little more widely separated in female, deeply emarginate but not divided, dorsal and ventral lobes connected posteriorly by a line or by one or more rows of facets; maxillary palpi truncate at apex. Pronotum as wide as or wider than long, sides rounded posteriorly. Elytra longer than basal width, gradually narrowing apically, suture entire, apices narrowly separated, rounded. Legs elongate; femora moderately slender, not clavate; anterior tibiae strongly bent, oblique sinus distinct, posterior, tibiae longer than femora, sometimes moderately pilose; tarsi slender, subcylindrical, posterior pair nearly one-half as long as tibiae, first segment more than twice as long as broad, approximately as long as following two segments together. Abdomen elongate, that of female with five visible sternites and the fifth hairy, deeply, angularly excavated, that of male broadly emarginate, exposing sixth sternite.

Genotype: *Thia pusilla* Newman (by single reference).

Methia is widely distributed in America, with a single species each in Argentina and Brazil, two in the West Indies, one in southeastern United States, and the remainder (thirteen species) in southwestern United States and northern Mexico.

METHIA PUSILLA (Newman)

Thia pusilla Newman, 1840, Entomologist, 1: 18.

Methia pusilla Newman, 1842, Entomologist, 1: 418; LeConte, 1852, Jour. Acad. Nat. Sci. Phila., (2) 2: 144; Leng and Hamilton, 1896, Trans. Am. Ent. Soc., 23: 162.

Obrium? dejeanii Haldeman, 1847, Trans. Am. Philos. Soc., (2) 10: 42.

Female: Form elongate, slender; color pale testaceous, head and thorax slightly rufotestaceous, eyes black; pubescence short, pale, recumbent. HEAD distinctly narrower than base of elytra; eyes very broadly rounded beneath, scarcely extending below mouth parts, far more widely separated below than above, separated on vertex by approximately the width of the third antennal segment, on underside of head by more than twice the greatest diameter of the antennal scape, dorsal and ventral lobes connected posteriorly by a single row of facets; vertex coarsely but shallowly and indistinctly punctured behind eyes; antennae one and one-fourth times as long as body, sparsely hairy, scape slender, apical tooth not evident, second segment very short, much broader than long, usually at least in part concealed within the scape, third segment scarcely more robust than, and about one and one-sixth times as long as, fourth segment. PRONOTUM a little wider than long, sides strongly dilated at middle, basal constriction broad, deep, apical constriction narrow but distinct; disk with numerous callosities, surface concolorous; pubescence short, pale, recumbent, without an intermixture of longer, erect hairs; stridulatory plate of mesonotum feebly, more or less evenly convex without a median, longitudinal ridge. ELYTRA about four and one-half times as long as pronotum, about two and one-half times as long as broad; sides straight; costae feeble but evident; surface clothed with short, pale, recumbent pubescence, without an intermixture of longer, erect hairs; apices narrowly, separately rounded. LEGS clothed with pale, suberect hairs; posterior tibiae straight; posterior tarsi with first segment a little shorter than the two following together. ABDOMEN dark brownish, fifth sternite pale testaceous and densely clothed with short, pale hairs. Length: 5-9 mm.

Male: Body brownish, elytra wholly or partly testaceous; eyes separated on vertex by about the width of the third antennal segment, on underside of head by a little less than twice the diameter of antennal scape; antennae not quite twice as long as body; elytra about two and one-half times as long as pronotum, about twice as long as broad; abdominal sternites piceous. Length: 5-8 mm.

Type locality: "East Florida."

Distribution: Southeastern United States.

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