A CATALOG OF THE COLEOPTERA OF AMERICA NORTH OF MEXICO

FAMILY: DRYOPIDAE
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1 Missing numbers are those assigned in the computer program to families not found in the United States and Canada.
A CATALOG OF THE COLEOPTERA OF AMERICA NORTH OF MEXICO

FAMILY: DRYOPIDAE

BY

HARLEY P. BROWN
DEPARTMENT OF ZOOLOGY
UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA
NORMAN, OK
FOREWORD

Many species of beetles are important pests of agricultural crops, stored food products, forests, wood products and structures, and fabrics. Many other species, in contrast, are beneficial in the biological suppression of pest arthropods and weeds, as well as in the decomposition of plant detritus, animal carcasses, and dung. Part of our national responsibility to American agriculture is to provide correct identification of species of American beetles so that appropriate controls can be applied.

Most information about animal species, whether agricultural, biological, or experimental, is filed under the species' scientific names. These names are therefore the keys to retrieval of such information. Because some species have been known by several names, a complete listing of these names for each species is necessary.

For the user of scientific names, an up-to-date taxonomic catalog providing currently accepted names and pertinent bibliographic and distributional data is an indispensable tool. Although taxonomic literature is constantly changing to reflect current work, the traditional published taxonomic catalog remains static with updating left to the individual user until it is revised. Production of catalogs in the past has been laborious with long printing delays resulting in data that are obsolete before being published. However, the computer now provides the capability of storing, updating, and retrieving taxonomic data; rapid publication through computer-driven typesetting machinery; and a greater degree of currentness and flexibility.

All 124 fascicles in this catalog of the beetles of America north of Mexico are produced by an original group of computer programs, designed and written during a pilot project by personnel of the Systematic Entomology Laboratory, Agricultural Research Service, and the Communications and Data Services Division, Science and Education Management Staff.

The published information is stored on computer tape, is updated periodically to reflect taxonomic progress in the family, and is available in a data base for computer searching.

T. B. Kinney, Jr.
Administrator
Agricultural Research Service
PREFACE

The Coleoptera, or beetles, are represented in the world by about 220,000 described species, of which about 24,000 occur in the United States and Canada. A comprehensive taxonomic catalog of beetles for this area has not been available except the series of world-based “Coleopterorum Catalogus” volumes (1909–present, Junk, Berlin). The Leng “Catalogue of the Coleoptera of America North of Mexico” (J. D. Sherman, Jr., Mt. Vernon, NY), which was published in 1920 with supplements to the end of 1947, is a checklist. However, it has served professional and amateur alike for nearly 60 years as the principal source of scientific names of beetles. Since 1947, many new taxa have been described and many changes in status and nomenclature have appeared in numerous scattered publications, but little effort has been made to summarize these changes.

This catalog will supplant the Leng catalog and supply additional essential information. It is produced by an original suite of storage, retrieval, and printing programs written especially for automated taxonomic catalogs.

The catalog for each family is published as a separate fascicle with its introductory text, bibliography, and index. Each family is numbered as listed, but the order of issuance of fascicles is not necessarily in numerical sequence. The publishing of separate fascicles makes data available shortly after they are assembled. Computer tapes for each fascicle are maintained for updating and necessary reprinting.

The information on each family is the responsibility of the respective author or authors. The editors modify it only to correct obvious errors and to make it conform to the requirements of the computer programs.

No original proposal for a new name, taxon, status, or classification is given, such data having been previously published, but new host and distributional data are often listed. The rules of “The International Code of Zoological Nomenclature” are followed.

The geographic scope of this catalog includes the continental United States, Canada, Alaska, Greenland, and the associated continental islands. Names of taxa found only in other regions are excluded. If the range of a species extends outside these geographic limits, this fact is indicated. Inside the back cover is a map of the 12 faunal regions based on historical and faunal criteria to simplify distribution recordings. Two-letter Postal Service style abbreviations are used for States and Provinces, and faunal regions are indicated in each distribution record by a diagonal line between groups of abbreviations.

It is not the purpose of this catalog to present a complete scheme of higher classification within the order. The familial makeup is somewhat intermediate between that of R. H. Arnett in “The Beetles of the United States” (1960–62, Catholic University Press, Washington, DC) and that of R. A. Crowson in “The Natural Classification of the Families of Coleoptera” (1967, Biddles Ltd., Guildford, England). Modifications of these two systems are largely those advocated by J. F. Lawrence based in part on suggestions by taxonomic specialists for certain families.

Generic groups and higher categories within the family are arranged phylogenetically as indicated by the author of the particular fascicle, and species group names with their respective synonyms are arranged alphabetically.

Names referable to incertae sedis and nomen dubium are listed separately at the end of the nearest applicable taxon with notations as to their status.

Each available name is followed by its author, date proposed, and page number referring to the complete bibliographic citation containing the original description. Following each generic name are
the type-species and method of its designation, necessary explanatory notes, and pertinent references on immature stages, taxonomy, redescription, ecology, and keys. After the specific name entry are the original genus (if different from the present placement), type-locality, geographical distribution by State, Province, and broad extralimital units, explanatory notes, pertinent references to immature stages, taxonomy, redescription, and ecology, depository of type-specimen and its sex, and hosts.

In addition to the list under the map of faunal regions (inside back cover), the following abbreviations are used in this catalog:

**ABBREVIATIONS, GENERAL**

- Amer. Bor.—America Borealis
- Amer. Sept.—America Septentrionalis
- Autom.—Automatic
- C. Amer.—Central America
- Co.—County
- Cosmop.—Cosmopolitan
- Design.—Designated
- F.—Female
- Holarc.—Holarctic
- Isl.—Island
- M.—Male
- Mex.—Mexico
- Monot.—Monotypy
- Mus.—Museum
- N. Amer.—North America
- Orig. des.—Original designation
- Preocc.—Preoccupied
- S. Amer.—South America
- Sp.—Species
- Subseq. monot.—Subsequent monotypy
- Subsp.—Subspecies
- Taut.—Tautonymy
- Univ.—University
- USA—United States of America
- Var.—Variety
- W. Ind.—West Indies

**MUSEUMS IN THE CONTINENTAL UNITED STATES AND CANADA**

AMNH—American Museum of Natural History, New York
ANSP—Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia, PA
BYUC—Brigham Young University, Provo, UT
CASC—California Academy of Sciences, San Francisco
CISC—University of California, Berkeley
CNCI—Canadian National Collections, Ottawa
CUIC—Cornell University, Ithaca, NY
CWOB—C. W. O'Brien Collection, Tallahassee, FL
DHKC—D. H. Kistner Collection, Chico State College, CA
ELSC—E. L. Sleeper Collection, Long Beach, CA
FMNH—Field Museum of Natural History, Chicago, IL
FSCA—Florida State Collection, Gainesville
HAHC—H. & A. Howden Collection, Ottawa, Canada
ICCM—Carnegie Museum, Pittsburgh, PA
INHS—Illinois Natural History Survey, Urbana
JGEC—J. G. Edwards Collection, San Jose, CA
KMFC—K. M. Fender Collection, McMinnville, OR
KSUC—Kansas State University, Manhattan
LACM—Los Angeles County Museum, CA
LSUC—Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge
MCZC—Museum of Comparative Zoology, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA
MSUC—Michigan State University, East Lansing
NCSM—North Carolina State University, Raleigh
NYSM—New York State Museum, Albany
OSEC—Oklahoma State University, Stillwater
OSUC—Ohio State University, Columbus
OSUO—Oregon State University, Corvallis

**Museums in Foreign Countries**

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<td>GUHC</td>
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<td>IRSB</td>
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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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J. M. Kingsolver, editor in chief
Systematic Entomology Laboratory, Agricultural Research Service
Washington, D.C.

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x
Family DRYOPIDAE Grouvelle, 1896

By Harley P. Brown

Parnidea Leach, 1817: 88; Parnidae MacLeay, 1825: 34; Dryopini Erichson, 1847: 509; Parnides Redtenbacher, 1858: 410; Parnites Jacquelin du Val, 1859: 273; Diversicornes-Parniens Mulsant and Rey, 1872: 39; Parninae LeConte and Horn, 1883: 164; Parnini Kuwert, 1890: 16; Dryopides Grouvelle, 1896: 27; Dryopidae Grouvelle, 1900: 268; Dryopinae Zaitzev, 1910: 5.

There is no satisfactory common name for dryopids, but members of the genus Helichus, which is widespread and common in much of North America, may appropriately be called either long-toed water beetles or rime beetles (a name shared with the elmids). Of the world’s 17 genera and over 230 species, only 3 genera and 13 species have been reported from North America.

The history of the family is intertwined with that of the Elmidae, since the two groups were placed for so long within a single family. In 1791, Olivier created the genus Dryops for Dermestes auriculatus Geoffroy 1785 and a new species from Guadeloupe (now Pelonomus picipes). In 1792, Fabricius described Parnus prolifericornis as a new genus and species. Unfortunately, it was not until many years later that Parnus prolifericornis was recognized as a junior synonym for Dryops auriculatus. For the next century the names of higher taxa were based on the invalid Parnus. To compound the confusion, Leach in 1817 assigned the European species of Helichus (though this name was not created until 30 years later) to Olivier’s Dryops. Thus most species of Dryops were described as Parnus, whereas most species of Helichus were described as Dryops.

Leach (1817) also created the family Parnidea, emended by MacLeay in 1825 to Parnidae, to encompass Parnus, Dryops, and Potamophilus. During the following century the family was expanded to include not only the Potamophilini (Larinae) but also the rest of the Elmidae and the Psephenidae at either subfamily or tribal level. The name was shifted from Parnidae to Dryopidae by Grouvelle (1896, 1900), but its composition remained relatively constant until Hinton (1939) excluded the Psephenidae (sen. lat.), Elmidae (both Larinae and Elminae), and such limnichid genera as Lutrochus. Although here we treat the family Dryopidae in this restricted sense, as do most taxonomists today, Bertrand (1972) retained the Elminae and Larinae within the family.

From the foregoing it is obvious that elmids are very closely related to the dryopids and less so to the limnichids and psephenids. Heterocerids are not very distant relatives. Crowson (1967) included them plus ptilodactylids, eulichids, eurypogonids, and chelonariids within the superfamily Dryopoidea, which, together with the Dascilloidea, Byrrhoidea, Buprestoidea, Rhipiceroidae, Elateroidea, and Cantharoidea, comprise the series Dascilliformia of the suborder Polyphaga.

LeConte (1852) described most of the North American species of Helichus, as summarized by Musgrave (1935). Harry Nelson is working on the genus. Most of the Neotropical dryopids were described by Sharp, Grouvelle, and Hinton, as were many from other tropical and sub-tropical regions. Deleve added numerous species from Africa and Southeast Asia. Sato has become the authority on Oriental dryopids. Bollow (1938-40) monographed the Palaearctic dryopids. Steffan and Olmi are current authorities on European dryopids.

So far as known, most dryopid larvae occur in moist soil or decaying wood and are essentially phytophagous. Few people have knowingly collected them. In contrast, the adults are relatively abundant and conspicuous and often are collected at lights. Although the adults of the large genus Sostea (mostly in the Malay region) display no affinity for water, those of most dryopids do. Members of the largest genus, Dryops, are typically riparian, often occurring in great numbers along Neotropical stream margins or in trash just above the water level. When disturbed, they drop onto the water surface, from which they readily take flight and fly rapidly; they are similar to larine elmids. Other species of Dryops and Pelonomus occur in or near the quiet waters of marshes or swamps and may creep beneath the water surface on the submerged parts of plants. Adults of Helichus, the only dryopids collected by most North American entomologists, resemble elmids in behavior and habitat, employing a hydrofuge plastron for truly aquatic respiration. Recently emerged adults fly, but once they have entered the water, most will probably never return to the air. They appear to be detritivores of stream substrates.
This manuscript was received May 1976.


Genus DRYOPS Olivier

Dryops Olivier, 1791: 297. Type-species: *Dermestes auricule* Geoffroy (monot.).

*Parnus* Fabricius, 1792: 245. Type-species: *Parnus prolifericorois* Fabricius (design. by Hope, 1838: 151) *auriculatus* (Geoffroy). Des Gozis (1886: 9) and Latreille (1804: 225) noted that *Parnus prolifericorois* Fabricius, 1792, was the same as *Dryops auriculatus* (Geoffroy, 1785). *P. acuminatus*, the only other species listed in the genus by Fabricius, is now in the genus *Potamophilus*.

Immature stages: Bertrand, 1940: 360; figs. 100-111 (larva and pupa).

Subgenus DRYOPS Olivier

*arizonensis* (Schaeffer), 1905: 126 (*Parnus*). AZ: Phoenix; AZ.


Subgenus YRDOPS Steffan

*Yrdops* Steffan, 1961: 286, figs. 24-38. Type-species: *Parnus striatopunctatus* Heer (orig. des.). Olmi (1972, p. 73, 74) questions the validity of such subdivisions of the genus as this pointing out the inadequacy of Steffan's material.

*viennensis* (Heer), 1841: 466 (*Parnus*). Austria? and Switzerland: Zurich; PQ/ Old World.


Genus HELICHUS Erichson

Helichus Erichson, 1847: 510. Type-species: *Elmis lithophilus* Germar (monot.).

Dryops Leach, 1817: 88. Type-species: *Dryops dumerilii* Latreille (monot.) *substriatus* (Mueller).

Immature stages: Bertrand, 1940: 365, figs. 112-115 (larva).

TAXONOMY: Musgrave, 1935.


basalis LeConte, 1852: 43. PA; KS IN OH KY/ PA DE MD WV VA/ MA/ OK/ LA MS AL GA.

Type Depository: MCZC.

confluentus Hinton, 1935: 71, fig. E. AZ: Cochise Co., Cave Creek, Chiricahua Mts.; AZ NM TX/Mex.

Type Depository: CASC.
Sex of Type: M.
TAXONOMY: Musgrave, 1935.

fastigiatus (Say), 1824: 275 (*Parnus*). PA; KS IL IN OH/ PA NJ DE MD DC WV VA/ ME MA CT/ OK/ LA MS AL TN GA SC FL. The Say type-specimen was lost and a neotype was designated from WV: Ridge, Breakneck Run.

Type Depository: USNM (neotype).
Sex of Type: M.

immsi Hinton, 1937: 318, figs. 1-3, 6, 10. CA: Glendale; CA/ UT/ AZ NM TX/Mex.

Type Depository: BMNH.
Sex of Type: M.

lithophilus (Germar), 1824: 88 (*Elmis*). PA; WI ON PQ/ IA MO IL IN OH KY/ PA DE MD/ MA/ TX OK/ AR MS AL TN GA SC FL.

productus LeConte, 1852: 43. CA: San Diego; CA/ Mex.

Type Depository: MCZC.
Sex of Type: M.
**Dryopidae**

*striatus foveatus* LeConte, 1852: 43 (synonymized by Horn, 1870: 33 but restored to variety by Musgrave, 1935: 142). NM: Santa Fe; BC WA OR/ CA NV/ AZ NM.

**Type Depository:** MCZC.

*striatus striatus* LeConte, 1852: 43. VT; BC WA OR/ AB MB MT ND SD/ MN WI MI ON PQ/ CA NV/ WY UT CO/ NE KS IA IL IN/ NH VT/ AZ NM.

**Type Depository:** MCZC.

**Taxonomy:** Musgrave, 1935: 142.


**Type Depository:** CNC.

*suturalis* LeConte, 1852: 43. CA: San Diego; SD/ CA/ CO/ NE KS/ AZ NM TX OK/ Mex., C. Amer.

**Type Depository:** MCZC.

**Taxonomy:** Musgrave, 1935: 143, pl. 17. AZ: Cochise Co., Chiricahua Mts., Pimery Canyon; AZ NM TX/ Mex.

**Type Depository:** USNM.

**Sex of Type:** M.

**Genus Pelonomus** Erichson, 1847: 510. Type-species: *Dryops picipes* Olivier (design. by Young, 1954: 207).

*Oberonus* Casey, 1893: 581 (synonymized by Sanderson, 1938: 660 (footnote)). Type-species: *Oberonus obesus* Casey (monot.) *obscurus* (LeConte).

*Parnoides* Kuwert, 1900: 17 (synonymized by Grouvelle, 1895: cclviii). Type-species: *Parnoides pectinicornis* Kuwert (monot.) *brasilianus* (Klug)

**Immature Stages:** Leech and Sanderson, 1959: fig. 38.67 (ventral aspect of larva).

*obscurus gracilipes* ChevroIat, 1864: 406. Cuba; FL/ W. Ind.

**Taxonomy:** Darlington, 1936: 77.

**Ecology:** Young, 1954: 208 (note).

*obscurus obscurus* LeConte, 1852: 42. 'Southern and western states' United States; KS IL IN KY/ TX/ AL TN SC FL/ Mex., C. Amer., W. Ind.

**Type Depository:** MCZC.

**Sex of Type:** F.


**Type Depository:** USNM.

**Sex of Type:** M.

*rufescens* Casey, 1893: 581 (synonymized by Darlington, 1936: 77). FL.

**Type Depository:** USNM.

**Sex of Type:** F.

**Immature Stages:** Leech and Sanderson, 1959: fig. 38.67 (larva).

**Taxonomy:** Darlington, 1936.
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Names are indexed as follows:
CAPITALS: All names for taxa above the generic level;
Boldface: Valid generic and subgeneric names;
Roman: Valid specific and subspecific names;
Italic: All invalid names such as synonyms, nomenclata, and extra-limit taxa even though valid.

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