

A REDEFINITION OF THE EUGNOMINAE TO INCLUDE THE MERIPHINAE

The following definition is that presented by Marshall in 1937 modified to include the Meriphinae.

Head elongate with the temples as long as, or longer than, the eyes, (except in *Udeus*, *Omoides*, and some species of *Meriphus*, *Myossita* and *Orpha*); scrobes oblique, turning rapidly downwards and continued on the lower surface of the rostrum (except in *Goneumus*); scape far exceeding the front margin of the eye (only slightly in *Omoides*); front coxae conical (except in *Orpha* and some species of *Myossita*); hind femora bearing a large tooth (with only a few exceptions); tibiae unarmed in both sexes of most genera but mucronate in some species of *Rhopalomerus* and *Ancistropterus* and in males of *Meriphus*, *Myossita*, *Orpha*, *Udeus* and *Omoides*; tarsal claws free (except *Myossita banksiae* Lea) and either simple, or with an inconspicuous tooth at the base, or appendiculate.

KEY TO *Meriphus*, *Myossita*, *Orpha*, *Udeus* AND *Omoides*

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| 1. Epistome not produced. Mandibles normal or exodont. Funiculus six or seven-segmented. Tarsal claws free and simple when mandibles are normal, appendiculate when they are exodont. Central and South America | 2 |
| Epistome usually strikingly produced (except in <i>Meriphus fullo</i> Er. and <i>Myossita crucigera</i> Blkb.). Mandibles exodont (normal in <i>M. crucigera</i> Blkb.). Funiculus seven-segmented (but six-segmented in <i>Meriphus ater</i> Lea and in one alleged specimen of <i>Myossita melanocephala</i> Pasc.). Tarsal claws free and simple (connate in <i>Myossita banksiae</i> Lea) Australia | 3 |
| 2. Mandibles normal. Tarsal claws simple. Claw segment as long as rest together | <i>Udeus</i> Champ. |
| Mandibles usually exodont. Tarsal claws appendiculate. Claw segment shorter than rest together | <i>Omoides</i> Boh. |
| 3. First tarsal segment elongate (length about four times breadth, Fig. 18). Antennal club slender (length about four times breadth, Fig. 19) | <i>Meriphus</i> Er. |
| First tarsal segment short (length about two and a-half times breadth, Fig. 20). Antennal club broad (length not more than three times breadth, Fig. 21) | 4 |
| 4. Anterior coxae slightly or very slightly separate, not conical. Elytra glabrous | <i>Orpha</i> Pasc. |
| Anterior coxae contiguous, conical or not. Elytra scaly (in species examined) | <i>Myossita</i> Pasc. |

Only eight of the 12 described species of *Meriphus* and six of the 12 species of *Myossita* were examined. Of the two *Orpha* species seen, the anterior coxae of *flavicornis* Pasc. are globular, while those of *persimilis* Pasc. are flat. *Udeus eugnoides* Champ. can be separated from *muticus* Hust. by the tooth on the femora of the former. Kuschel (1952) gave a key to the species of *Omoides* Boh.

BIOLOGY

Little is known about the biology of the Eugnominae. Lea (1899) reared *Myossita carpophaga* Lea from the cones of *Banksia* (Proteaceae). Hudson (1934) found the larvae of *Rhopalomerus (Eugnomois) nubilans* (Broun) in rimu (Podocarpaceae) logs in a dry state of decay and bred *Rhopalomerus (Eugnomois) maculosus* (Broun) from larvae in a log of *Pinus radiata*. Marshall (1937) recorded that *Oreocalus (Oreocharis) hebe* Mshll. was bred from galls on *Hebe*