



## The position of the Leptoscelini and other taxonomic changes within the family Coreidae (Hemiptera: Heteroptera)

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### Abstract

The coreine tribe Leptoscelini is subsumed under the tribe Anisoscelini, which receives the genera *Leptoscelis* LaPorte, *Malvana* Stål and *Phthia* Stål. The genus *Amblyomia* Stål, lacking numerous characters of the tribe, is placed in *incertae sedis*. Other genera tentatively placed in the tribe include: *Coribergia* Casini, *Dalmatomammurius* Brailovsky, *Kalinckascelis* Brailovsky, *Leptopelios* Brailovsky, *Leptostellana* Brailovsky, *Malvanaoides* Brailovsky, *Onoremia* Brailovsky, *Plunentis* Stål, and *Sephinoioides* Brailovsky. *Ugnius* Stål and *Bellamynocoris* Brailovsky are removed from Acanthocephalini to Anisoscelini.

**Key words:** Coreinae, Acanthocephalini, Anisoscelini, Leptoscelini, *Bellamynocoris*, *Coribergia*, *Dalmatomammurius*, *Kalinckascelis*, *Leptopelios*, *Leptostellana*, *Leptoscelis*, *Malvana*, *Malvanaoides*, *Onoremia*, *Phthia*, *Plunentis*, *Sephinoioides*, *Ugnius*, tribal synonymy

### Introduction

The family Coreidae has been plagued by a multitude of taxonomic problems, synonyms, and a lack of keys to identify members. As with many taxonomic groups, there are often tribes within subfamilies that become catch basins for new genera and species described within the family or subfamily. Among tribes of the Coreinae, this is certainly true for the Coreini, and it is becoming so for the Leptoscelini. This paper will not clarify those problems, but attempts to produce a natural grouping that may give direction for further work as well as clarify a few taxonomic problems within the Coreidae.

The tribe Leptoscelini was erected by Stål as Leptoscelidida in his key to the genera of American Coreidae (1867). The tribe then comprised three genera: *Leptoscelis* Latreille, *Malvana* Stål, and *Phthia* Stål, and was separated from the tribe Anisoscelini Latreille by the lack of expanded hind tibiae. Packauskas (1994a) used the same character to separate the tribe and also used characters shared with most species found in the Anisoscelini: all femora spinose below, a porrect head, juga and tylus extended forward, and rostrum extending onto abdomen, to further differentiate the tribe from other tribes lacking hind tibial expansions.

Packauskas (1994b, mostly unpublished) examined genera in the tribes Acanthocephalini, Anisoscelini, and Leptoscelini. He produced a phylogeny based on external and internal (genitalic) morphological characters of numerous genera within these tribes. For the Leptoscelini he used the three genera first established for the tribe by Stål (1867) as well as the genus *Amblyomia* Stål (placed in the tribe by Stål, 1870). The outgroup used in the analysis was comprised of members of all three subfamilies: Coreinae, Meropachyinae, and Pseudophloeinae. The members of the Coreinae came from both Old World tribes (Coreini, Homeocerini, and Petascelidini) and New World tribes (Acanthocerini, Coreini, Chariesterini, Chelinideini, Nematopodini, and Spartocerini). One of the inescapable conclusions in polarizing characters was the result that the expansion of