



## A review of the genus *Glyptasida* Casey (Coleoptera: Tenebrionidae: Asidini)

STEPHANIE A. LOCKWOOD<sup>1</sup> & DARREN A. POLLOCK<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Biological Sciences, Texas Tech University, Lubbock, TX USA 79409. E-mail: stephanie.horne@ttu.edu

<sup>2</sup>Department of Biology, Eastern New Mexico University, Portales, NM USA 88130. E-mail: darren.pollock@enmu.edu

### Abstract

The western American genus *Glyptasida* Casey is redescribed and reviewed based on structural features of adult specimens. Of 22 available species or subspecies names, three were retained as valid species based on morphological characteristics and statistical analyses of selected measurements: *Glyptasida sordida* (LeConte), *G. aegra* (LeConte), and *G. rugosissima* (Champion). Selected structures of the three species are illustrated and a key separating the species is included. Nineteen names are synonymized as follows: *G. sycophanta* Casey 1912 [= *G. aegra* (LeConte 1858)] and the following are synonymized under *G. sordida* (LeConte 1853): *G. costipennis* (LeConte 1858), *G. aegra irregularis* (LeConte 1858), *G. interrupta* (Champion 1884), *G. aegra imperfecta* Casey 1912, *G. aegra pigra* Casey 1912, *G. aegra plena* Casey 1912, *G. costipennis fulvisetis* Casey 1912, *G. crenicollis* Casey 1912, *G. heres* Casey 1912, *G. parvicollis* Casey 1912, *G. procrustes* Casey 1912, *G. sordida porcatula* Casey 1912, *G. stringipennis* Casey 1912, *G. subpubescens* Casey 1912, *G. turbulenta* Casey 1912, *G. turgescens* Casey 1912, *G. turgescens furtiva* Casey 1912, *G. turgescens obesa* Casey 1912. Lectotypes are designated for *G. sordida* (LeConte 1853), *G. costipennis* (LeConte 1858), *G. sordida porcatula* Casey 1912, *G. subpubescens* Casey 1912, *G. sycophanta* Casey 1912, and *G. turgescens* Casey 1912. Preliminary data on natural history of the genus are presented.

**Key words:** Coleoptera, Tenebrionidae, *Glyptasida*, Nearctic, taxonomy, synonymy

### Introduction

*Glyptasida* Casey is one of 26 North American and Mexican genera in the tribe Asidini (Tenebrionidae), whose members are known from southern Europe, Africa, Madagascar, and North and South America (Aalbu *et al.* 2002). Until recently this tribe has been little studied, and according to Aalbu *et al.* (2002: 488), “this genus [*Glyptasida*] needs revision”. This paper expands upon the information known about the taxonomy of *Glyptasida* and adds new knowledge about this little studied group.

The first named species currently in the genus *Glyptasida* Casey was described in the genus *Pelecyphorus* Solier: *P. sordidus* LeConte (1853). LeConte (1858) then described an additional three species of *Pelecyphorus*: *P. aeger*, *P. costipennis*, and *P. irregularis*. All of these species were later transferred to *Glyptasida* by Casey (1912). Horn (1871) concluded that *P. aeger*, *P. costipennis*, and *P. irregularis* were varieties of *P. sordidus* and not separate species. Champion (1884) described the next two species of *Glyptasida* in the genus *Asida*: *A. rugosissima* and *A. interrupta*. Champion (1892) in a supplement to his 1884 paper, synonymized *A. rugosissima* and *A. interrupta* under *A. sordida*, stating that *A. sordida* was too variable for the former two species to remain separate. Even from this early time, it is obvious that authors were unsure of the species boundaries in *Glyptasida*, and that *G. sordida* (or *Pelecyphorus sordidus*) was quite variable in structure. This is borne out by the present study.

Casey (1912) placed *Asida sordida* in his new genus *Glyptasida* and also took the other five previously described species out of synonymy and placed them in *Glyptasida*: *G. aegra*, *G. irregularis*, *G. costipennis*, *G.*