



## Two new and one resurrected species of *Enoclerus* Gahan (Coleoptera: Cleridae: Clerinae) from the western United States

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### Abstract

*Enoclerus vernalis*, new species, is described from the Mojave Desert of California. *Enoclerus valens*, new species, is described from Arizona. *Enoclerus spinolae* (LeConte 1853), broadly distributed in the U. S. Southwest and also occurring in northern Mexico, is resurrected as a valid species. Distribution and biology of some yucca associated *Enoclerus* species are briefly discussed.

**Key words:** Clerid fauna, Arizona, California, Mojave Desert, Joshua tree, Yucca

### Introduction

*Enoclerus* Gahan is a large and broadly distributed New World clerid genus. Most recent taxonomic work on the genus has focused on the description of new species from Mexico and Central and South America, where the taxon is particularly diverse. The North American (north of Mexico) fauna, approximately 34 species, had already been well characterized by the middle part of the last century. In the 1800s, American and European workers such as LeConte (1849), Say (1823, 1835), Horn (1885) and Klug (1842) described the majority of species distributed in the eastern, southeastern, midwestern and coastal western United States. Later, in the early decades of the 20th Century, Schaeffer (1904, 1905), Schenkling (1906), Skinner (1905), Van Dyke (1915, 1938) and particularly Wolcott (1909, 1910, 1911, 1922), made descriptions of the many new species brought to light by collecting expeditions in areas of California, Arizona, New Mexico and Texas that had hitherto remained entomologically unexplored. Finally, it was left to Barr (1976) to describe a few overlooked forms from California and the desert Southwest. Although it can now confidently be said that the number of species of U.S. *Enoclerus* is almost entirely known, a few new southwestern species have turned up in recent years by collectors. A few more may be defined in the future as a result of reevaluation of the limits of variability in some described species. The descriptions and nomenclatural change presented in this paper are intended to bring us another step closer to completing the basic faunistic catalogue of *Enoclerus* in the United States.

### Abbreviations

CASC	California Academy of Sciences Collection, San Francisco, California, U.S.A.
CSCA	California State Collection of Arthropods, Sacramento, California, U.S.A.
EMEC	University of California, Essig Museum of Entomology, Berkeley, California, U.S.A.
FMNH	Field Museum of Natural History, Chicago, Illinois, U.S.A.