

A revision of Nearctic species of the genus *Tomoglossa* Kraatz, 1856 (Coleoptera: Staphylinidae: Aleocharinae)

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Abstract

Noverota Casey, 1910, **syn. nov.**, (type species *Noverota ornatella* Casey, 1910) is placed in synonymy with *Tomoglossa* Kraatz, 1856. Redescription and illustrations are provided for distinguishing the genus *Tomoglossa* from other aleocharine genera. Two new species of *Tomoglossa* are described (*T. arizonica* **sp. nov.** from Arizona and *T. floridana* **sp. nov.** from Florida) and three species are redescribed (*T. ornatella* (Casey, 1910) known from New Jersey, *T. improvisa* (Casey, 1910) from Texas and *T. decora* (Casey, 1910) from Vermont, Pennsylvania, Arkansas and Mississippi). Lectotypes are designated for *Noverota ornatella*, *N. decora* and *N. improvisa*. A key for identification of Nearctic species of *Tomoglossa* is provided.

Key words: Coleoptera, Staphylinidae, Aleocharinae, *Tomoglossa*, *Noverota*, taxonomy, new species, synonymy, Nearctic, identification key.

Introduction

The genus *Tomoglossa* Kraatz, 1856, until this contribution was published, included six Palaeartic, seven Oriental and one Nearctic species. Palaeartic species include two widespread Western Palaeartic species, *T. luteicornis* (Erichson, 1837) (the only known Japanese specimen attributed by Bernhauer (1907a) to *T. luteicornis* is a female and may turn out to be a different species (Sawada 1977)), *T. laeta* Eppelsheim, 1884, and four species with more restricted range: *T. aegyptiaca* Scheerpeltz, 1963 from Egypt, *T. brakmani* Scheerpeltz, 1963 from the Netherlands and Germany, *T. heydemanni* Lohse, 1977 from Germany, and *T. breittiana* (Scheerpeltz, 1957) from Greece (transferred to *Tomoglossa* by