

## A revision of the Nearctic species of the genus *Stethusa* Casey, 1910 (Coleoptera: Staphylinidae: Aleocharinae)

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### Abstract

The Nearctic and Neotropical genus *Stethusa* Casey, 1910 is redescribed. Descriptions and a key to the three valid Nearctic species of *Stethusa* (*S. dichroa* (Gravenhorst, 1802), *S. klimtschi* (Bernhauer,

1909), and *S. spuriella* (Casey, 1910)) are provided. *Atheta affluens* Casey, 1910, *At. irvingi* Casey, 1910, *At. galvestonica* Casey, 1910, *At. canonica* Casey, 1910, *At. sagax* Casey, 1910, *At. sororella* Casey, 1910, *At. clarescans* Casey, 1911a, *At. videns* Casey, 1911a, *At. cynica* Casey, 1911a, *At. cernens* Casey, 1911a, *At. officiosa* Casey, 1911a, *At. tuta* Casey, 1911a, *Dimetrota novella* Casey, 1910 and *D. sentiens* Casey, 1910 are placed in synonymy with *Stethusa dichroa*. *Atheta unigranosa* Bernhauer, 1909 (*nec* 1908), *At. subdebilis* Casey, 1910, *At. duplicata* Fenyès, 1920 and *At. macrops* Notman, 1920 are synonymized with *S. spuriella* (Casey, 1910). Neotropical *At. lurida* (Erichson, 1839) and *At. luederwaldti* Bernhauer, 1908 are transferred to *Stethusa*. *Atheta texana* Casey, 1910, *At. crenuliventris* Bernhauer, 1907 and *At. iheringi* Bernhauer, 1908 do not belong to *Stethusa*. *Atheta mendosa* Casey, 1910 is placed in synonymy with *At. texana* Casey, 1910. *Dimetrota bradorensis* Lohse, 1990 is synonymized with *At. crenuliventris* Bernhauer, 1907. Lectotypes are designated for *Aleochara dichroa* Gravenhorst, 1802, *Atheta crenuliventris* Bernhauer, 1907, *At. luederwaldti* Bernhauer, 1908, *At. iheringi* Bernhauer, 1908, *At. unigranosa* Bernhauer, 1909, *At. affluens* Casey, 1910, *At. irvingi* Casey, 1910, *At. galvestonica* Casey, 1910, *At. canonica* Casey, 1910, *At. sagax* Casey, 1910, *At. sororella* Casey, 1910, *At. spuriella* Casey, 1910, *At. subdebilis* Casey, 1910, *At. texana* Casey, 1910, *At. clarescans* Casey, 1911a, *At. cynica* Casey, 1911a, *At. cernens* Casey, 1911a, *At. officiosa* Casey, 1911a, *Dimetrota novella* Casey, 1910 and *D. sentiens* Casey, 1910.

**Key words:** Coleoptera, Staphylinidae, Aleocharinae, *Stethusa*, Nearctic, taxonomy, nomenclature, synonymy, identification key

## Introduction

Casey (1910) described the subgenus *Stethusa* of the genus *Atheta* Thomson, 1858 and included eleven species. Casey noted that compared to "the true *Atheta*", the mesocoxae in *Stethusa* are more widely separated.

Fenyès (1918) fixed *Atheta irvingi* Casey, 1910 as the type species of *Stethusa*. Fenyès (1920) included *At. irvingi* in the subgenus *Hypatheta* Fenyès, 1918 and placed the name *Stethusa* in synonymy with *Hypatheta* despite the fact that the name *Stethusa* has priority.

Later, Seevers (1978) raised *Stethusa* to generic rank and illustrated the oval pale areas near the base of the terminal antennal segment, which he interpreted as a diagnostic character of the genus. Despite the fact that *S. klimtschi* (Bernhauer, 1909) lacks this feature, Seevers retained it in *Stethusa*.

In this paper I redescribe *Stethusa* and three valid Nearctic species of that genus. I synonymize 14 species described by Casey (1910, 1911a) with *S. dichroa* (Gravenhorst, 1802).

I follow the terminology accepted in the taxonomy of Aleocharinae (Sawada 1970, 1972; Newton *et al.* 2000). Additional terms used to refer to some setae and pores of the epipharynx are introduced below. A discussion of the terms applied to the parts of the internal sac of the aedeagus can be found in Gusarov (2002a). To avoid the controversy on