

NEW REVISION UNDER WAY:

AMERICAN BEETLES:
A Handbook of the Beetles of Nearctic America

Authors

Arnett, Ross H. Jr., Florida State Collection of Arthropods, and Department of Entomology and Nematology, University of Florida (Business address: 2406 NW 47th Terrace, Gainesville, FL 32606-6583. Phone: (352) 371-9858; e-mail: Oedemeridae@msn.com

Thomas, Michael C., Florida State Collection of Arthropods, and Department of Entomology & Nematology, University of Florida (Business address: Division of Plant Industry, P. O. Box 147100, Gainesville, FL 32614-7100. Phone: (352) 372-3505; e-mail: mct@delphi.com

Editorial Board

Frank, J. Howard, D. Phil., *Chairman of Editorial Board*, Entomology & Nematology Department, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL 32611. Phone: (352) 392-1901, ext. 128; e-mail: jhf@gnv.ifas.ufl.edu

Furth, David G., Ph. D., Department of Entomology, NHB MRC 165, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, DC 20560. Phone: (202) 357-3146; e-mail: Furth,David@nmnh.si.edu

Ivie, Michael A., Ph. D., Department of Entomology, Montana State University, Bozeman, MT 59717. Phone: (406) 994-4610; e-mail: ueymi@gemini.oscs.montana.edu

Ratcliffe, Brett C., Ph. D., Systematic Research Collection, W436 Nebraska Hall, University of Nebraska State Museum, Lincoln, NE 68588. Phone: (402) 472-2614; e-mail: bcr@unlinfo.unl.edu

Van Tassell, Eileen R., Ph. D., Department of Entomology, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI 48824. Phone: (517) 353-2279; e-mail: 22301evt@msu.edu

Young, Daniel K., Ph. D., Department of Entomology, University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI 53706. Phone: (608) 262-2078; e-mail: young@entomology.wisc.edu

The Editorial Board is responsible for reviewing and approval of the publication plan of the book to be known as *American Beetles*. This includes the contents, geographical area covered, format, and classification of the families, subfamilies, and tribes. Format includes the sequence of data presented, style of keys, references cited, and bibliography. They will also determine the suitability of the illustrations provided, style, labeling, and sufficiency for each family. The Board will also approve authorship and have final approval or rejection of manuscripts.

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Revisers

Several Coleopterists have been asked to revise the family sections, working from diskettes modified and provided from the original "Beetles of the United States." They will rewrite these sections, and will be recognized as the author of the section. They are asked to sign a writing contract with the publisher.

Other Coleopterists have been asked to review the family sections of the new book. These persons are acknowledged in the family section text.

PUBLICATION PLAN

This book is a revision and update of the book originally written by Ross H. Arnett, Jr., called *The Beetles of the United States*, completed in 1963, and originally published by the Catholic University of America Press.

The authors present this publication plan to the Editorial Board for approval. This includes a family classification list, with subfamilies. The family list is included in a booklet available on request. The authors will ascertain that all families, subfamilies, tribes, and genera are included. This classification is subject to some modification by the authors of the family sections, with the approval of the editorial board, if new information is found during the writing process.

Each family section is numbered in sequence. Superfamilies and higher categories are indicated in the classification list. The classification used is discussed in the introduction to the book.

Unlike the previous edition, this edition will have one or more authors for many families. For those families for which the authors and editors are unable to find a family specialist, the section will be revised by one of the senior authors. Each family section will be reviewed by one or more specialists.

It is extremely important that each section follows the same plan. If the format is unacceptable to any individual author, the family will be written by one of the senior authors, and specialists will be asked to review the section. These reviewers will be acknowledged, as they were in the previous book.

The book will cover the genera of beetles that occur in Alaska, Canada, conterminous United States, but not Hawaii, and Nearctic Mexico (in so far as possible). Extraneous distribution of the genera may be listed at the discretion of the authors. The number of species indicated is those found in the area covered by the text. The total number of known species in the World is given as an estimate of the number of described species. The estimated number of undescribed species may also be indicated if desired.

The sequence of data presented will be much the same as in the original book, namely:

- Family number
- Family name with author and date
- Author(s) of section with affiliation
- Author's acknowledgments
- Common name of family
- Figure number of habitus sketch of representative species
- Family synonyms and family name history
- General description of the family, general, with separate paragraphs for head (including appendages), thorax (including legs), abdomen, male and female genitalia, eggs (if appropriate), larvae, and pupae (if appropriate)
- Ecology
- Status of the classification, including history
- Distribution, including number of species in World, and in America
- Key to subfamilies, tribes, and genera (illustrated throughout); keys to known larval genera are included wherever possible.

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• Classification, including discussion of subfamilies and tribes as appropriate, list of genera, with author's name, synonyms, discussion, including list of species (if appropriate), distribution of the genus and/or species (as appropriate), and references to revision of each genus (if appropriate) as cross reference to complete bibliography at the end of the book. The text references should be annotated as to: revision of subfamily, tribe, genus, biology, distribution, or other notations as appropriate.

Given the existing book (*Beetles of the United States*), and the work already completed by the authors, and editors, we ask that all manuscripts and new illustrations be sent to the editors no later than December 1, 1997. This will permit publication of this new edition of the book no later than April 1, 1998. Authors will be required to meet this deadline in order to receive compensation for their work.

AUTHOR COMPENSATION

Each author will receive a modest stipend per printed page. Payment will be made when received from the publisher. Also permission will be granted to produce a limited number of separates for administrative use. Authors may purchase copies of the book from publishers at a discount price.

Authors may cite their contribution to the book as a peer-reviewed, published paper.

DISTRIBUTION OF ROYALTIES

All royalties received from the publisher will be paid to *American Insect Projects, Inc.* This money will be used to pay authors for writing the sections, as described above, and for office expenses such as postage, office supplies, photocopying, etc. All remaining funds will be paid to a not-for-profit organization, if they agree to accept these funds, and if they agree to continue to publish new editions of the book.

ARRANGEMENT OF THE FAMILIES OF BEETLES OF THE WORLD

For use in "AMERICAN BEETLES"
As modified from Lawrence and Newton (1995) by Editorial Board

Order COLEOPTERA Linnaeus, 1758

The families and subfamilies used for the new book are those used in Lawrence and Newton (1995) as the default list, but slightly modified using information from peer reviewers, and recently proposed changes.

The intent of this arrangement is to show, in a linear arrangement, the monophyletic taxa of the Coleoptera. The position of the families in this linear list may not show this clearly. A considerable amount of discussion among the editorial board members took place before a consensus was reached. At first some thought that we should give consideration to the "philatelic fraternity." Only after we realized that the default list, by agreement, should be entirely based on monophyletic principles, was the discussion making headway. Changes from the default list are made only where new data has warranted the change. These data are to be presented in the new text.

The entire classification has been discussed in detail in the introduction to the proposed "American Beetles." Authors and dates in the following list are from our new text, with corrections as made in Lawrence and Newton. The families and subfamilies listed in the booklet that are not Nearctic are as given by Lawrence and Newton, and are in lower case type. These are not treated separately in the text of the new book, but they are considered in the introduction to the new book for the information of those who do not have a major library nearby.

The common names of the families and subfamilies are as used in Arnett, 1963, or created new for this volume. "Family" is used after each family name to indicate that the taxon contains species to which the common name is applied, but that not all species necessarily are given that common name.