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BRIEF COMMUNICATION

An overlooked family-group name among bees: Availability of *Coelioxoidini* (Hymenoptera: Apidae)

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Abstract. Recent phylogenetic analysis of the family Apidae has applied the tribal name *Coelioxoidini* to the distinctive genus *Coelioxoides* Cresson, which has been thought to be related to *Tetrapedia* Klug. However, the nomenclatural status of such a family-group name has not yet been assessed. Herein, we determine that this family-group name is available and discuss its authorship and proposal date.

INTRODUCTION

The genus *Coelioxoides* Cresson includes four rather wasp-like cuckoo bees (Fig. 1) that has historically been considered a close relative of their hosts in the genus *Tetrapedia* Klug (Roig-Alsina, 1990; Michener, 2007). More recently, the genus has been suggested to be related to other cleptoparasitic bees, and distant from *Tetrapediini* (Martins *et al.*, 2018; Bossert *et al.*, 2019), and each has employed the tribal name *Coelioxoidini* to accommodate the genus.

The availability of a family-group name based on the type genus *Coelioxoides* was questioned by Rocha-Filho *et al.* (2017), who wrote, “no taxonomic study has been performed in order to assign *Coelioxoides* to a distinct tribe as its type genus.” Indeed, a family-group name formed from *Coelioxoides* was not mentioned in any of the recent

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Figure 1. Female of *Coelioxoides waltheriae* Ducke from Santa Cruz, Bolivia (University of Kansas Natural History Museum, SEMC 255628).

treatments of such names among bees (Michener, 1986, 1999, 2007; Engel, 2005, 2015). Yet, Nates-Parra & Fernandez (1992) appear to have established such a family-group name in an account that provided illustrated keys to the families and tribes of bees occurring in Colombia. From an examination of that account, it seems that the name is indeed available. For availability at the time it was established, a family-group name had to be accompanied by a description in words of characters differentiating it from other taxa (ICZN, 1999: Art. 13.1.1) (in fact, a description is required for all family-group names proposed after 1930, otherwise they are *nomina nuda*), and be formed from an available genus-group name (ICZN, 1999: Art. 13.2). Names after 1999 must also explicitly designate the type genus and include a statement expressly indicating that the name is being proposed as new (ICZN, 1999: Arts. 16.1, 16.2), but these latter two requirements do not apply in the present case. Nates-Parra & Fernandez (1992: pp. 73, 85) do provide a tribal name based on the available genus-group name *Coelioxoides*, thereby satisfying Article 13.1.1 for a family-group name proposed after 1930 but before 1999. Moreover, from the descriptive characters provided in their key (p. 73), these same authors do provide a written account differentiating the tribe from other taxa, thus meeting the requirement of Article 13.2. Given that the name predates the post-1999 imposition of Articles 16.1 and 16.2, the above actions are sufficient to make available the tribal name *Coelioxoidini*, and owing to the Principle of Coordination render it simultaneously available at all ranks within the family group

(ICZN, 1999: Art. 36). A summation of the nomenclatural details for the name, using the format of Engel (2005), is provided here.

NOMENCLATURE

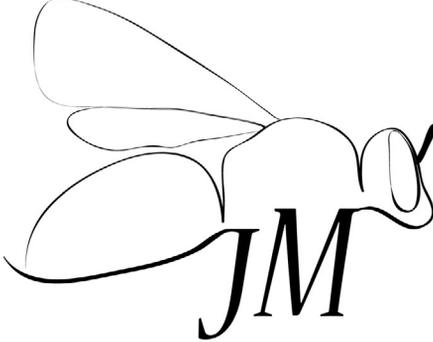
Coelioxoidini Nates-Parra & Fernandez, 1992: 73. Type genus: *Coelioxoides* Cresson, 1878. Combining stem: Coelioxoid-.

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