

## A Correction: A Second Species of *Xenosphex* (Hymenoptera: Sphecidae, Nyssoninae)

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In the Wasmann Journal of Biology, 1954, 12(1): 97-103, figures 1-8, I published a paper entitled: "*Xenosphex xerophila*, an Apparently New Genus and Species of Wasp from Southern California." The material involved a unique male and female and represented the holotype and allotype respectively, of the species. Just as my paper was being published I received from Mr. P. H. Timberlake of the Citrus Experiment Station, at Riverside, a third and recently captured specimen of *Xenosphex*. This, a female specimen, closely resembled the male of *Xenosphex xerophila* Williams but differed in several important characters from the female described as that of *Xenosphex xerophila*. Hence the changes that follow.

### ***Xenosphex timberlakei* Williams, new species.**

*Synonym Xenosphex xerophila* Williams, 1954, Wasmann Journal of Biology, 12(1):101-103, figs. 7 & 8. Female.

FEMALE, holotype (Citrus Experiment Station, Riverside, California) 18 miles north of Blythe, Riverside County, California, October 27, 1951 (P. H. Timberlake). It was taken on *Pappus papposa*. For the description of this holotype see the reference given at the beginning of this paper where this same specimen was described as the allotype of *X. xerophila*.

### ***Xenosphex xerophila* Williams.**

Williams, 1954, Wasmann Journal of Biology, 12 (1):99-101, figs. 1-6. Male.

FEMALE: Length 6.25 mm. Generally smooth and polished as in the male, markings much as in the male. Black; scape of antennae and pedicel yellow beneath, flagellum brown beneath,

clypeus yellow beneath the dense silvery pile, mandibles for more than basal length mostly brownish yellow, pronotal lobes apically and tegulae in part creamy white; venation at base of wings white to pale yellow, a white scutellar spot; legs darker than in male, coxae blackish, femora except small pale apical part, brown to nearly black, tibiae except outer face of 1 and 2 and base of 3 which are creamy, brown, tarsus 1, pale yellow, last segment dark, tarsi 2 and 3 more or less pale yellowish basally, brownish apically; the dead white on tergite 2 is narrowly notched anteriorly and is marked at about its middle length with a broad ill-formed black M, the white bands on 3-5 are twice interrupted with black, about as in the male; sternite 2 has a white lateral spot, and there is a white spot offside on sternite 3; pygidium brownish; bristles of tarsal comb yellowish white. *Vestiture*: clypeus and therefrom to base of antennae, antennal fossae, temples, mesonotum chiefly before wing bases, mesopleura above, propodeum except disc, and a stripe posteriorly on posterior tibiae, with silvery pile. *Head* as viewed from in front wider below than in male, being rounder, with a wider clypeus and with the outer margin of the eyes more vertical than in the opposite sex. Clypeus quite gently and widely rounded out and with the small median portion above the labrum *very* gently lobed, clypeal disc somewhat transversely tumid from the base; antennae subclavate, the second article (pedicel) large, articles 3 and 4 subequal, 12 longer than 11 and slightly tapering and curved; mandibles slender and somewhat longer than in male, with a few erect hairs on the inferior margin that suggest a psammophore; posterior ocelli nearly twice their diameter from the eyes, these compound eyes slightly and subangularly emarginate above their middle height and strongly converging toward the clypeus. Sculpture of head very fine, the surface coriaceous, with a few punctures. Mesonotum polished, with fine sparse punctures, depressed anteriorly at median notauli, pleurae nearly smooth; metanotum rounded lobelike mesad. Disc of propodeum with the depression very shallow, narrower than in the male and nearly parallel sided; underside of abdomen with sparse erect hairs somewhat segmentally distributed. Pygidium subtriangular, rounded apically, bounding carina low, disc with sparse rather coarse punctures. Legs a little less stout than in the male; tarsal comb of delicate pointed bristles that range up to about

twice the diameter of their segments. *Wings* about as in the male; the venation is nearly black, the second submarginal cell is very short petiolate, and there are six hamuli on the fore margin of each wing.

One female (Citrus Experiment Station, Riverside), in fresh condition, from **Borego, San Diego County, California**, April 25, 1954 (P. H. Timberlake), taken on *Croton californicus*.

*Xenosphex timberlakei* is abundantly distinct from *Xenosphex xerophila*. The former, which is much the larger, has silvery pile only upon the head although there is a little pale yellowish pile on the mesonotum. Besides the differences in markings, the emargination of eyes in *X. timberlakei* is plainly curved, rather than subangulate as in the female of *X. xerophila*. In *X. timberlakei* the third antennal segment is about half again as long as the fourth and relatively slender to near the swelling apical portion; in *X. xerophila*, both male and female, the third and fourth antennal segments are subequal and the third tapering but little. *Xenosphex timberlakei* is largely subopaque as contrasted with the generally polished appearance of the other species. Compare in *X. timberlakei* the steeply declivous median portion of the clypeus along with its bare truncated portion with the simple clypeus of *X. xerophila*. *Xenosphex timberlakei* is also distinguished by its paler and more outbulging venation.

I owe thanks to Mr. P. H. Timberlake for submitting these interesting wasps to me and for his helpful comments upon them.