

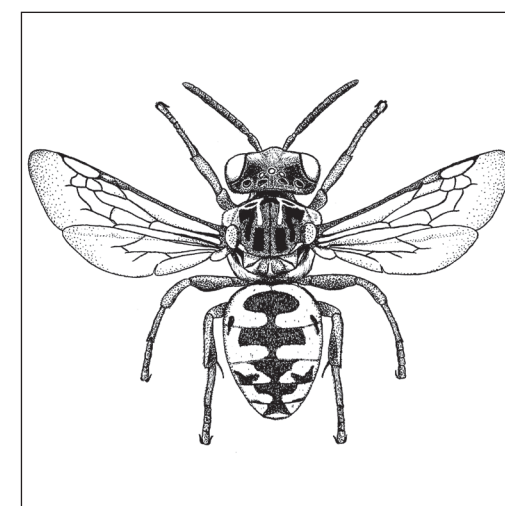


*Epeolus* (Hymenoptera: Apidae) is a diverse genus of cleptoparasitic bees that are specialized brood parasites of polyester bees of the genus *Colletes* (Hymenoptera: Colletidae). Although more species have been described from North America than any other continent, the taxonomy of *Epeolus* occurring in Canada and the United States has been problematic, and the genus has never before been revised for all species in the region.

In the present study, a biosystematics approach based on morphology and DNA barcodes was used to delineate species, of which 15 are newly described. Results also confirmed the redundancy of five names, which are now considered to be junior synonyms. In total, 43 species are confirmed as occurring north of Mexico, which can be identified using the dichotomous key, differential diagnoses, and images presented in this paper. These bees are little known, so English common names are proposed to help increase their familiarity to the public, and available information about their biology and ecology is presented in detail.

**A REVISION OF THE  
CLEPTOPARASITIC BEE GENUS  
*EPEOLUS* LATREILLE FOR  
NEARCTIC SPECIES, NORTH OF  
MEXICO (HYMENOPTERA, APIDAE)**

BY  
THOMAS M. ONUFERKO



*Epeolus chamaesarachae* Onuferko, sp. n.

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