***Nomia s.s****.* of the tallgrass prairie region and midwest US

M. Arduser

*edited February 13, 2024*

**Females:**

1. Large bees, usually 16-20 mm; mid-tibial spur apical portion with a few teeth, basal portion very finely serrate; anterior portion of scutum with mixed dark and light hairs; polylectic species, central and southern TGP and most of Midwest………………………………………………………….***nortoni nortoni*** Cresson

Smaller bees, 10-13 mm; mid-tibial spur very finely serrate throughout its length; anterior portion of scutum with pale hairs only; Fabaceae oligoleges ……………………………………………………………….…………2

2(1). Punctures on T2 and T3 similar in size and density; 12-13mm; Great Plains species not known east of Mississippi River, in our region apparently restricted to prairie remnants…***universitatis*** Cockerell

Punctures on T2 and T3 dissimilar, those on T3 mostly much finer and denser than those on T2; 10-11 mm; southeastern US species, sand obligate, in our region found only in sandy areas of the Mississippi embayment…………………………………………………………………………….………………………….***maneei*** Cockerell

***Note****:* a southern Great Plains species, *fedorensis* Cockerell, resembles *maneei* closely and may show up in the extreme southwestern parts of our range, although there are no records thus far. Both of these species have the punctures on T2 much larger and more separated than the fine, dense punctures on T3, and are Fabaceae specialists. They can be separated by the hypostomal angle being usually slightly produced in *fedorensi*s, but not produced in *maneei*. In addition, the T2-T3 apical areas are punctate in their basal ½ in *maneei,* but only the basal ¼-1/3 of the apical areas of T2-T3 are punctate in *fedorensis*.

**References:** Ribble (1965)

**Males:**

1. Large bees, 16-20 mm or greater; clypeus largely bare, impunctate; flagellum long and attenuated apically, especially F10 and F11; pedicel largely hidden in scape; hind femur and tibia grossly enlarged, maximum width and length of each about equal; floral generalist, central and southern TGP, most of midwest……………………………………………………..……………………………………….….…….***nortoni*** ***nortoni*** Cresson

Smaller bees, 10-13 mm; clypeus covered with appressed white hair; flagellum normal, not attenuated apically; pedicel entirely exposed; hind femur enlarged but not so enlarged as above, maximum width only about half its maximum length………………………………….………………………………………..……………..……..2

2(1). Punctation of T2-T4 similar; length 12-13mm; Great Plains species not known east of the Mississippi River, in our region apparently restricted to prairie remnants………..***universitatis*** Cockerell

Punctation of T4 much finer and denser than punctation of T2-T3; southeastern US species, sand obligate, in our region found only in sandy areas of the Mississippi embayment….***maneei*** Cockerell

***Note****:* an southern Great Plains species, *fedorensis* Cockerell, resembles *maneei* closely and may show up in the extreme southwestern parts of our range, although there are no records thus far. *N. fedorensis* and *maneei* malescan be separated by the dimensions of the hind femur: three times longer than wide in *maneei* , but only twice as long as wide in *fedorensis.*

**References:** Ribble (1965)

MSA, 2/13/24