THE GRYLLOTALPIDAE AND TRIDACTYLIDAE (ORTHOPTERA) OF TENNESSEE

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In North America, the Gryllotalpidae and Tridactylidae are among the smallest of the orthopteran families in numbers of species, the former having seven species and the latter two. Two species, Neocurtilla (= Gryllo
talpa) hexadactyla Porty and Tridactylus apicalis Say were listed by Marcovitch (1920) from Tennessee. No further additions to the list of Tennessee fauna have been found in the literature.

Ellipes minuta (Scudder), Tridactylidae, and Scap
teriscus acletus Rehn and Hebard, Gryllotalpidae, are reported as new state records. We have included keys, essential figures, synonymy, partial descriptions and collection data for all species in these families reported from Tennessee.

FAMILY GRYLLOTALPIDAE — Mole Crickets

Characteristics: Relatively large insects, ranging in size from 18 mm. up to 40 mm. as adults; usually brownish, often quite dark; forelegs greatly modified for digging; usually associated with moist regions, as pond margins, where they burrow a few inches below the surface; not easily collected, although often quite numerous in a given locale.

Key to Genera and Species
1. Front tibia with 4 dactyls, 2 movable (see fig. 1A); hind femur shorter than pronotum .......................... Neocurtilla hexadactyla
1'. Front tibia with 2 dactyls (see fig. 1B); hind femur often longer than pronotum .......................... Scapteriscus acletus

Neocurtilla Kirby

Characteristics: Refer to key.

Neocurtilla hexadactyla (Perty)

Characteristics: Tegmina one-half to three-fourths the length of the abdomen; anal cerci about one and one-half times as long as pronotum; range in length for both sexes from 21-30 mm.; all other eastern species of Neocurtilla are 35 mm., or greater, in length.

County Records: Jefferson, Knox
Dates of collection: 8 April - June

Scapteriscus Scudder
Characteristics: Refer to key.

Scapteriscus acletus Rehn & Hebard

Characteristics: Size medium and slender; pinkish-buff in color; dorsal of pronotum with a blackish-brown oval; body length, male, 26.4-34.4 mm., female, 26.5-35.5 mm.; the remaining species of Scapteriscus in North America are restricted to the extreme southern portions of the country.

County Records: Knox
Dates of collection: 11 Apr.

(FAMILY TRIDACTYLIDAE — Pygmy Mole Crickets)

Characteristics: Small, less than 10 mm. in length; exceptionally strong jumpers; similar to mole crickets in utilizing moist habitats and in burrowing; possess a very characteristic pair of "cerci-like" appendages just below the true cerci.

Tridactylus Olivier
Characteristics: Refer to key.

Key to Genera and Species
1. Length greater than 5.5 mm; hind tibia with four pairs of long slender plates used in swimming; hind tarsi I-segmented .......................... Tridactylus apicalis
1'. Length less than 5.5 mm; hind tibia with one pair of short plates (rarely two) used in swimming; hind tarsi absent. Ellipes minuta

Tridactylus apicalis

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