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## Notes Upon Variation of Melissodes Lupina Cresson

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1909

W.E. Hilberry

# NOTES UPON VARIATION OF *MELISSODES LUPINA* CRESSON.

By T. D. A. COCKERELL, Las Vegas, N. M.

THREE male specimens of *Melissodes* collected by E. S. Tucker at Colorado Springs, Colo., during August, 1906, were submitted to me for examination.

The examples are so close to *Melissodes lupina* Cr. that I doubt whether they are more than a geographical race. Comparing them with a cotype of *M. lupina*, I find that the eyes of these specimens are bluer green and diverge less above, and the mesothorax is more shiny. A specimen from Raton, N. M., which I had labeled *lupina*, has the same color of the eyes and shiny mesothorax as in Mr. Tucker's insects, but the eyes diverge as in typical *lupina*. The color of the eyes is not quite satisfactory when examined only in dry specimens. On the whole, I should call these bees *M. lupina*, but they might be regarded as a distinct subspecies. Were it not for the Raton specimen being in some degree intermediate, I should not feel so undecided.

Mr. Tucker's insects, compared with cotype of *M. aurigena*, have the fourth antennal joint shorter and the pubescence different in color. Compared with cotype of *M. agilis*, these specimens have the face narrower (which may vary) and the apical plate of abdomen conspicuously broader.

T. D. A. Cockerell  
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