

A new ant genus from the late Eocene European amber

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Eocenomyrma gen. nov. of extinct ants of the family Formicidae, subfamily Myrmicinae, is described from the late Eocene European amber (ca. 40 Ma), based on six specimens from six pieces of amber; three of them contain *E. rugosostriata* (Baltic and Saxonian Ambers); the remainder contain three new species: *E. orthospina* (Baltic Amber), *E. electrina* (Scandinavian Amber), and *E. elegantula* (Baltic Amber). *Eocenomyrma* resembles two extant genera: *Myrmica* and *Temnothorax* (both of which also occur in late Eocene European amber), but differs from them by the following apomorphies: clypeus short and broad, with two lateral longitudinal carinae and distinctly marked anterolateral corners, its median portion faintly concave transversally, anterior margin broad and shallowly concave medially, with pairs of long setae situated on the anterolateral clypeal corners, and central part of the anterior clypeal margin without setae; middle and hind tibiae lacking the spurs. Palp formula in *Eocenomyrma* is 4, 3 versus 6, 4 in *Myrmica*. We include *Eocenomyrma* in the tribe *Formicoxenini*. *Nothomyrmica rugosostriata* is transferred to *Eocenomyrma*, and the neotype of the latter species is designated; *Nothomyrmica petiolata* is transferred to the genus *Temnothorax*. A key for the identification of all known *Eocenomyrma* species is compiled.

Key words: Formicidae, Myrmicinae, *Eocenomyrma*, Baltic Amber, Saxonian Amber, Danish Amber, Eocene.

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