

Xeromelecta of the tallgrass prairie region and greater Midwest

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Females:

1. In facial view, vertex produced above eye and forming an obtuse angle laterally; long hairs on S4-S5 blackish; pygidial plate comparatively more broadly triangular than in *californica*.....***interrupta***

In facial view, vertex evenly sloping from ocellar region to eye margin, not produced above eye and not forming an obtuse angle laterally; long hairs on S4-S5 light-colored light-colored; pygidial plate comparatively more narrowly triangular than in *interrupta*.....***californica***

Males:

1. In facial view, vertex produced above eye and forming an obtuse angle laterally; distance from mid-ocellus to peak of vertex (in facial view) equal to about half the distance from mid-ocellus to interantennal area; S4-S5 hair fringe mostly blackish (tips of hairs may be whitish); T7 weakly bidentate apically.....

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interrupta

In facial view, vertex evenly sloping from ocellar area to top of eye, not produced above eye and not forming an obtuse angle laterally; distance from mid-ocellus to peak of vertex (in facial view) no more than one-quarter the distance to interantennal area and usually less; S4-S5 hair fringe mostly whitish; T7 more deeply and sharply bidentate apically.....

californica

