

Key to Genera of Melyridae of South Carolina

(adapted from Mayor 2002, 2003 and Majer 1994)

- 1 Body without eversible vesicles; tarsomere 1 of all legs distinctly shorter than tarsomere 2
(Melyridae, according to some authors)..... 2
Body with eversible vesicles, number and arrangement various, but always present below front angles of
pronotum; tarsomere 1 sometimes shorter than 2 on hind legs, almost as long as 2 on front and middle legs
(Malachiidae, according to some authors) 3
- 2(1) Body small, length <3 mm; brown to black, elytra sometimes with pale red basal and preapical spots..... [Melyrodes](#)
Body larger, length >7 mm; reddish orange with head and elytra dark metallic blue..... [Melyris oblonga](#) Fabricius
- 3(1) Abdomen with seven visible sterna, those of male with 5 and 6 excavated apically; front tarsomere 1 of male with a pectinate
comb of teeth on anterior margin [Chaetocoelus setosus](#) LeConte
Abdomen with six visible sterna; front tarsomere of male without comb of teeth on anterior margin 4
- 4(3) Antennae with nine antennomeres; length 1.0-1.5 mm..... [Ablechrus](#)
Antennae apparently with 10 or 11 antennomeres; length 1.7-6.0 mm..... 5
- 5(4) Antennae apparently with ten antennomeres; antennomere 2 small, hidden in apex of 1 [Collops](#)
Antennae with 11 antennomeres, antennomere 2 easily visible..... 6
- 6(5) Front tarsus of male with four tarsomeres; base of pronotum and elytral humeri (or basal band) pale
..... [Temnopsophus bimaculatus](#) Horn
Front tarsus with five tarsomeres in both sexes; color various..... 7
- 7(6) Front tarsomere 1 of male expanded ventrally into a rounded lobe; male front tibia with three to ten stout spicules
ventro-anteriorly near the apex [Nodopus](#)
Front tarsomere 1 and tibia of male not modified 8
- 8(7) Front tarsomere 2 of male with large dorsal lobe extended over 3 [Attalus](#)
Front tarsomere 2 of both sexes simple..... 9
- 9(8) Elytral apex of male prolonged and with a small cup-shaped process extended upward from the tip of each elytron
..... [Hypebaeus](#)
Elytral apex of male infolded horizontally and with a variously shaped process below the plane of elytra
..... [Anthocomus equestris](#) (Fabricius)

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