

Thanks for all the hard work you've put into revising the manuscript. It's clear you've made a strong effort to address the previous comments, and the manuscript is definitely improving. That said, there are still a few key points that could use more attention—especially the connection between setae morphology and foraging ecology, as well as providing clearer information on sample sizes in the Methods. I've also noted a few smaller issues related to formatting, terminology, and table clarity. I hope the comments below will be helpful as you continue refining your work—you're on the right track, and it's shaping up well.

Discussion: The revised sentence, “In stingless bees, the morphological diversity of the setae and structures involved in pollen handling of the hind tibiae and basitarsi are poorly investigated, despite the ecological and functional importance of these features and their potential to reveal evolutionary divergence among species with different foraging strategies (e.g., floral pollen collection, kleptoparasitism and necrophagy),” does not fully address the reviewer's original request. While it was placed in the first paragraph of the Discussion section, it seems to imply that the ecological and functional relevance of these features will be elaborated elsewhere—yet this discussion remains limited or unclear.

From lines 113–115: “The hind legs of Meliponini exhibit remarkable structural adaptations that allow for a variety of specialized functions, from pollen collection to transporting resin, seeds, mud, and feces used for nest construction (Grüter, 2020), as well as wing grooming (Michener, 2007),” it is unclear whether these cited studies directly investigate species with different foraging strategies or whether these species overlap with your focal taxa. Please clarify this point. If your dataset includes species that vary in foraging strategy, a more detailed discussion of the relationship between setae morphology and foraging ecology would significantly strengthen the paper.

Introduction: The phrase “...The stingless bees (tribu Meliponini)...” appears to use the French word “tribu” instead of the English term “tribe.” Please correct it accordingly.

Methods: In the revised version, it is unclear how many bees were used for each measurement. While the supplementary file *Raw_data.xlsx* presents data as means $\pm$ SD or ranges, the actual sample sizes are not provided. Please clearly state the number of individuals measured per species or per morphological trait in the Methods section, as this information is important for reproducibility and interpretation.

Tables S2–S3: These tables contain numerous abbreviations. To improve readability, please include the full forms of these abbreviations in the table captions or as footnotes.

References: In the citation Conde-Boytel R, Erickson EH, Carlson SD. 1989, the scientific name used in that reference is not italicized. Please correct this formatting error.

Formatting: Please review the formatting of several lines, such as lines 69, 75, and 90. Some may require merging with the previous paragraph, while others may need indentation to indicate the start of a new paragraph.