The winged species of Embia are intermediate among Oligotoma and Olyntha. The body is stronger and more flattened above than in Olyntha; the head is shorter, about quadrangular, but the antennæ are as short as in Oligotoma; the prothorax is shorter and broader than in both, but near to the head more narrowed; the thorax is still larger than in Olyntha; the legs are as long and as strong as in Oligotoma; the wings as long as the body (Oligotoma), but broader, with the venation similar to Olyntha; the abdomen is broader and more flat than Olyntha, but with the shorter appendages of Oligotoma. Asymmetry is known only in the female sex. Embia is known only from the old world in the countries around the Mediterranean and Persia.

The knowledge of the three groups is not sufficient to assert that all are only subgenera or genera; in the last case I believe that Olyntha and Embia can not be united.

There can be no doubt that the Embidina belong to a peculiar and well defined family, and cannot be combined with any other family, though a number of characters are found represented in other families.

The body is slender, elongate and flat above; the abdomen representing half the length of the body; the head is free, not inserted, small, flat, quadrangular or ovoid; the eyes are exactly in the front corner of the head, and in the imago state similar to aggregate eyes; ocelli, none : no dividing sutures of the head exist; antennæ as long as the body or half as long, praeocular, moniliform or partly filiform, slender and very fragile; mouth parts decidedly of Orthopterous character; maxillary palpi 5 iointed ; labium bilobate, the inner lobes transformed into a spinning apparatus, as in Psocina, but with 3 jointed labial palpi, and without the peculiar maxilla of Psocus. Prothroax much narrower than the head, elongate, or as long as broad; always with a dorsal transverse furrow after the anterior third; thorax strong, oblong, the mesothorax longer; each segment of thorax with three dorsal parts, the last one of the metathorax (segment mediaire) like the abdominal segments. Abdomen flat, about equal, with nine transverse oblong dorsal segments and eight ventrals ; at the tips on each side a bijointed appendage, short, or as long as the last segments; between them the male genital apparatus, just at the end of the abdomen; the female opening at the base of the seventh ventral segment ; the appendages, the male genital apparatus and the last dorsal and ventral segment show, at least in certain forms, asymmetry. Wings not deciduous, narrow, rounded on tips, as long or a little longer