

Priority of *Ingramia* Edwards, 1912, over *Ravenalites* Doucet, 1957 as the Name for a Subgenus of *Mimomyia* Theobald, 1903 (Diptera: Culicidae)

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Mattingly (1971) reverted to Theobald's original concept of treating *Ficalbia* Theobald, 1903, and *Mimomyia* Theobald, 1903, as separate genera of mosquitoes. Both groups are widely distributed through the Ethiopian and Oriental faunal regions. No natural subgenera of *Ficalbia* are currently recognized, whereas *Mimomyia* is classified into three subgenera, all of which are endemic to both the Ethiopian and Oriental parts of the range of the genus. Several other nominal genera erected by Theobald and other authors have long been placed in the synonymy of *Ficalbia* or *Mimomyia*. All but two of these other available names are now held to apply to either the nominate subgenus of *Mimomyia* or to its subgenus *Etorleptiomyia* Theobald, 1904.

The remaining subgenus of *Mimomyia* has been called *Ravenalites* Doucet, 1957. This name was nomenclaturally invalid when first proposed by Doucet (1950), as he did not designate a type-species from among the three Madagascan species originally included. In a foreword to Mattingly's (1957) revision of Indomalayan *Ficalbia* species (including *Mimomyia*), Doucet (1957) validated the name by designating *Ravenalites roubaudi* Doucet, 1950, as the "genotype". In doing so, he did not reiterate any description of the generic features, nor was he able to give descriptions of the egg, pupa or adults of the seven nominal species known only from larvae at that time (Doucet, 1950; 1951a; 1951b). Adequate descriptions of the pupa and both adult sexes of *roubaudi* were later provided by Mattingly and Grjebine (1958).

It was appreciated by Mattingly (1957) and Mattingly and Grjebine (1958) that species of *Ravenalites* from Madagascar appear to be congeneric with the widespread Oriental species known as *Ficalbia fusca* (Leicester, 1908); they also concluded that *Ravenalites* differs only subgenerically from *Etorleptiomyia*. Both these subgenera were transferred from *Ficalbia* to *Mimomyia* when the latter was reinstated as a genus by Mattingly (1971). The distinctiveness of *fusca* had earlier been used to found the monotypic genus *Dasymyia* Leicester, 1908. This name was, however, preoccupied in Diptera by the Syrphid genus *Dasymyia* Egger, 1858, so Edwards (1912) therefore proposed the replacement name *Ingramia* for *Dasymyia* Leicester. At the same time Edwards designated an African species, *Mimomyia malfeyti* Newstead in Newstead, Dutton and Todd, 1907, as a new type-species of the re-named genus. To change the type-species of a genus was as much against the "Règles Internationales de la Nomenclature Zoologique" (1905) then operative as it is in contravention of the presently effective "International Code of Zoological Nomenclature" (1961).

The matter became obscured after Edwards (1932) had relegated *Ingramia* to subgeneric status within *Ficalbia*. Later he reached the still undoubted conclusion that the species *malfeyti* belongs to *Ficalbia* sensu stricto. Accordingly, the genus-group name *Ingramia*, wrongly based on *malfeyti*, was listed as a junior synonym of *Ficalbia* by Edwards (1941) and all subsequent authors including Stone, Knight and Starcke (1959).

The purpose of this note is to bring to light the fact that the genus-group name *Ingramia* should have been based on the type-species *fusca* Leicester, and that Edwards' (1912) expressed intent to "redefine the genotype" as *malfeyti* Newstead was against the Rules. Article 67 (i) of the present Code clearly states: "...a replacement...name...must have the same type-species..., despite any statement to the contrary" (I. C. Z. N., 1961). That forceful phrasing supersedes Article 20 of the former Règles which was equally explicit: "...nor can a species be selected as type which was not originally included in the genus." (I. C. Z. N., 1905), and which Edwards failed to follow. The name *Ingramia* Edwards, 1912, therefore has priority over *Ravenalites* Doucet, 1957. Since the latter name has so recently come into use and comparatively few workers have dealt with the subgenus, there is little justification in making a special case for suppression of the senior name.

When discussing this nomenclatural point with Dr. Mattingly, we considered whether grounds might be found for separating Malagasy *Ravenalites* from Malayan *Ingramia*. At present, though, such a formal subdivision seems unwarranted, since these two geographically distinct groups of species possess remarkably close morphological resemblances, so far as is yet known. However, much scope remains for a penetrating taxonomic study of additional material. Adults of five or six undescribed forms from Madagascar have been collected by Grjebine and are kept in part by him and in part in the British Museum (Natural History). Such available material is inadequate for comprehensive investigation, but it does provide evidence that more collecting would be advisable before a satisfactory revision of the whole subgenus *Ingramia* (= *Ravenalites*) is conducted.

As currently comprised, therefore, the list of known species-group taxa in *Mimomyia* (*Ingramia*) is as follows:

Oriental spp.

<i>deguzmanae</i> (Mattingly, 1957)	Philippines
<i>fusca</i> (Leicester, 1908)	Malayan subregion, Formosa
<i>kiriromi</i> (Klein, 1969)	Cambodia

Malagasy spp.

<i>aurata</i> (Doucet, 1951a)	Madagascar
<i>bernardi</i> (Doucet, 1950)	Madagascar
<i>beytouti</i> (Doucet, 1951b)	Madagascar
<i>jeansottei</i> (Doucet, 1950)	Madagascar
<i>martinei</i> (Doucet, 1951a)	Madagascar
<i>roubaudi</i> (Doucet, 1950)	Madagascar, ? Comoros
<i>spinosa</i> (Doucet, 1951a)	Madagascar
5 or 6 undescribed forms represented in BM (NH) collection	Madagascar (coll. Dr. A. Grjebine)

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