

"*Ypsoria hadesia* Schs, ♀ type". The male is labeled "*Psorya hadesia* Schs, type", but does not bear the type number label. The female probably should be considered to be the holotype, but because the generic name on the name label is erroneous and because the female does not agree with the generic diagnosis, I prefer to select it as the lectotype and I so designate and label it. The male was not mentioned in the specific description, but the part of the generic diagnosis relating to the antennae was obviously prepared from the male, not the female, which has simple, not pectinate, antennae.

#### REFERENCE

- Todd, E. L. 1972. Notes concerning some moths described by William Schaus in 1915. (Lepidoptera). J. Wash. Acad. Sci. 61(4):266-271.

---

### NOMENCLATURAL PROBLEMS IN SIX GENERA OF TENEBRIONIDAE (COLEOPTERA)

T. J. SPILMAN, *Systematic Entomology Laboratory,  
Agricultural Research Service, USDA*<sup>1</sup>

**ABSTRACT**—The nomenclature of the following generic names in 6 genera of the Tenebrionidae is explained (the first name in each series is now the valid name): *Adelina*, *Doliema*; *Cheirodes*, *Anemia*; *Cymatothes*, *Pyania*; *Hypogena*, *Ulosonia*; *Mylaris*, *Iphthinus*, *Nyctobates*; ***Iphthiminus***, *Iphthinus* of authors. The type-species of *Hypogena* and *Iphthinus* are designated. ***Iphthiminus*** is newly proposed for the genus previously known as *Iphthinus*.

For the past few years I have been assembling a catalogue of the Tenebrionidae of America, north of Mexico, and have been re-examining all original descriptions of genera and species and designations of type-species. Because the world Tenebrionidae are so well catalogued—Gebien finished his second catalogue in 1948—my task has not been difficult. However, I did find a few things that had been overlooked or misinterpreted by previous workers, and because these things are somewhat complicated and require explanations, I am presenting them before the catalogue is published. My investigations also apply to other areas of the world because the genera also contain non-North American species.

---

<sup>1</sup> Mail address: c/o U. S. National Museum, Washington, D. C. 20560.



All but one of the 6 problems discussed below concern generic names first published and made available by Dejean in his catalogue of Coleoptera. Dejean did not morphologically describe any tenebrionid genera or species; his catalogue was merely a list of genera or species, with an author given for both and a locality given for the species. Many of the generic names were being used for the first time. Some of the genera included only names of undescribed species, that is, *nomina nuda*; such generic names are, of course, themselves *nomina nuda*. On the other hand, many generic names used for the first time included names of previously described species, and those generic names were thereby made available, according to Article 16(a) (v) of the International Code of Zoological Nomenclature. However, most older authors considered a generic name to be available only when a morphological description of the genus was given, and they therefore rejected all instances of possible authorship of genera by Dejean. Most modern authors have perpetuated these incorrect interpretations.

All of these problems and the resultant changes concern only nomenclature. No species have been transferred from genus to genus, no species have been synonymized, and no generic taxa are newly synonymized, though in 1 case generic names are newly synonymized. All classification is still exactly as given in Gebien's and Blackwelder's catalogues. The first 4 problems discussed below are quite simple: the junior synonym becomes the senior synonym. However, the fifth problem is quite complicated: 2 genera are involved, junior and senior synonyms change places, a generic name is transferred, and a new generic name is proposed.

#### *Adelina* Dejean

*Adelina* Dejean, 1835:315. Type-species: *Cucujus planus* Fabricius; monotypic.  
*Doliema* Pascoe, 1860:50. Type-species: *Doliema platisoides* Pascoe; monotypic.

These names apply to a genus usually known by the name *Doliema*; the genus is in the Ulomini. The names have been subjective synonyms for many years because their type-species are congeneric. *Doliema* had been used as the valid name because previous cataloguers had considered *Adelina* Dejean to be a *nomen nudum*. However, the inclusion of *plana* Fabricius, originally described as *Cucujus planus*, made the name *Adelina* available; 3 other included species were actually *nomina nuda*. Dejean attributed the name *Adelina* to Chevrolat, but Chevrolat had used the name only in a collection or in an unpublished manuscript.

The older name *Adelina* is the valid name for this genus. This change of position of the 2 generic names does not constitute a new synonymy. The genus occurs in all faunal realms except the Ethiopian.



The species are listed under the generic name *Doliema* in Gebien's catalogue (1940:785(592)). (Incidentally, Gebien (1940:785(592)) synonymized *Cucujus planus* Fabricius, 1801 (p. 94) under *Tenebrio planus* Olivier, 1795 (p. 57-14, pl. 2, fig. 17). I believe Olivier's description and illustration of *Tenebrio planus* apply more readily to *Pytho americanus* Kirby, 1837 (p. 165), as was indicated by Blair (1928:5).)

#### *Cheirodes* Gené

*Cheirodes* Gené, 1839:73. Type-species: *Cheirodes sardous* Gené; monotypic. *Anemia* Laporte, 1840:218. Type-species: *Anemia granulata* Laporte; monotypic.

These names apply to a genus usually known by the name *Anemia*; the genus is in the Opatrini. The names have been subjective synonyms for many years because their type-species are congeneric. *Anemia* had been used as the valid name because previous cataloguers had credited *Cheirodes* to Dejean (1834:194) and had considered it a *nomen nudum*. However, Gené's description of *Cheirodes sardous* in 1839 made *Cheirodes* available.

The older name *Cheirodes* is the valid name for this genus. This change of position of the 2 generic names does not constitute a new synonymy. The genus occurs in all faunal realms except the Neotropical. The species are listed under the generic name *Anemia* in Gebien's catalogue (1938:422(549)).

#### *Cymatotheres* Dejean

*Cymatotheres* Dejean, 1834:208. Type-species: *Helops undatus* Fabricius; monotypic.

*Pyanisia* Laporte, 1840:235. (Proposed as a subgenus of *Helops* Fabricius). Type-species: *Helops undatus* Fabricius; designated by Hope, 1840:133.

These names apply to a genus usually known by the name *Pyanisia*; the genus is in the Amarygmini. The names have been objective synonyms for many years because they are isogenotypic. *Pyanisia* had been used as the valid name because previous cataloguers had considered *Cymatotheres* Dejean to be a *nomen nudum*. However, the inclusion of *undatus* Fabricius, originally described in *Helops*, made the name *Cymatotheres* available; 3 other included species were *nomina nuda*. This generic name is occasionally spelled *Cymathotes*, but that is based on a spelling error of Blanchard (1845:33, 36).

The name *Pyanisia* was accidentally spelled *Pyganisia* by Hope when he made the type-species designation.

The older name *Cymatotheres* is the valid name for this genus. This change of position of the 2 generic names does not constitute a new synonymy. The genus occurs in the Western Hemisphere. The species are listed under the generic name *Pyanisia* in Gebien's catalogue (1948:514 (859)) and in Blackwelder's catalogue (1945:543).



*Hypogena* Dejean

*Hypogena* Dejean, 1834:199. Type-species: *Tenebrio biimpressus* Latreille; here designated.

*Ulosonia* Laporte, 1840:220. (Proposed as a subgenus of *Uloa* Dejean). Type-species: *Phaleria tricornis* Dalman; designated by Lucas, 1920:665.

These names apply to a genus usually known by the name *Ulosonia*; the genus is in the Ulomini. The names have been subjective synonyms for many years because their type-species are congeneric. *Ulosonia* had been used as the valid name because previous cataloguers had considered *Hypogena* Dejean to be a *nomen nudum*. However, the inclusion of *biimpressa* Latreille and another previously described species made the name *Hypogena* available; 8 other included species were *nomina nuda*. The type-species was originally described as *Tenebrio biimpressus* Latreille.

The type-species of *Ulosonia* was listed by Laporte as *tricornis* Palisot, but it was originally described as *Phaleria tricornis* Dalman.

The older name *Hypogena* is the valid name for this genus. This change of position of the 2 generic names does not constitute a new synonymy. The genus occurs in the Western Hemisphere. The species are listed under the generic name *Ulosonia* in Gebien's catalogue (1940:786(593)) and in Blackwelder's catalogue (1945:533).

*Mylaris* Pallas

*Mylaris* Pallas, 1781:37. Type-species: *Tenebrio gigas* Linnaeus; designated by Guérin-Méneville, 1844:120.

*Iphthinus* Dejean, 1834:203. Type-species: *Tenebrio gigas* Linnaeus; here designated. [NEW SYNONYMY].

*Nyctobates* Guérin-Méneville, 1834:33. Type-species: *Tenebrio gigas* Linnaeus; original designation.

*Iphthiminus* Spilman, n. gen.

*Iphthiminus* Spilman. Type-species: *Iphthinus italicus* Truqui; here designated.

*Iphthinus* (spelled *Iphthimus*) of Truqui, 1857:92, and subsequent authors.

Both of these genera are in the Tenebrionini. In the first genus, the names *Mylaris* and *Nyctobates* have been objective synonyms for a long time because they are isogenotypic. The genus has been called *Nyctobates* by most authors even though *Mylaris* was recorded as being older and even though Guérin-Méneville in 1844 pointed out that *Nyctobates* should be the junior synonym. Incidentally, Pallas correctly attributed *Tenebrio gigas* to Linnaeus, but he unnecessarily renamed it *Mylaris gigantea*; Guérin-Méneville credited *T. gigas* to Fabricius and accidentally spelled the generic name *Mylasis*; Motschulsky (1872:23) made an incorrect type-species designation and accidentally spelled the generic name *Milaris*.



The generic name *Iphthinus* has not previously been in synonymy with *Mylaris* and *Nyctobates*. In 1834 Dejean listed 30 species under the generic name *Iphthinus* Dejean in his catalogue; 7 of those species had been previously described. Then in 1857 Truqui presented the first morphological description of *Iphthinus*, but he used the spelling *Iphthimus*. One of the 4 species which Truqui included and described was the new species *Iphthimus italicus*; Motschulsky (1872:24) designated it type-species. Since that time all authors have considered: 1) Truqui to be the author of the generic name; 2) *Iphthimus* to be the correct spelling; 3) *italicus* to be the type-species. However, the facts are that: 1) Dejean is the author of the name because his inclusion of previously described species made the name available; 2) *Iphthinus* is the correct spelling and Truqui's *Iphthimus* must be considered a spelling error because he did not actually emend the name; 3) the genus still does not have a type-species because "*italicus* Bonelli? (*Upis*)", as included by Dejean, was a *nomen nudum* in 1834.

None of the 7 species available for type-species designation is now in *Iphthinus*. Six of those 7 species are in genera which are younger than *Iphthinus*, and selection of any 1 of them would change the name of another genus to *Iphthinus*. The above selection of *Tenebrio gigas* Linnaeus, credited by Dejean to Fabricius, has made *Iphthinus* isogenotypic with *Mylaris* and *Nyctobates*; the name *Iphthinus* is effectively buried under *Mylaris*, the oldest name.

Because of the type-species designations made above, the genus known as *Iphthimus* was left without a generic name. For that genus I have proposed the name *Iphthiminus* and have designated *Iphthinus italicus* Truqui as type-species. In the above synonymy under the new genus *Iphthiminus* I have cited Truqui's (1857:92) description of *Iphthimus*; this makes the new generic name available under Article 13(a) (ii) of the Code.

The genus *Mylaris* includes *gigas* (Linnaeus) and its congeners, all from Mexico and Central and South America; the species are listed under the generic name *Nyctobates* in Gebien's catalogue (1941:344(639)) and in Blackwelder's catalogue (1945:535).

The genus *Iphthiminus* includes *italicus* (Truqui) and its congeners, all from the western Palearctic and from the Nearctic, the species are listed under the generic name *Iphthimus* in Gebien's catalogue (1941:339(634)).

#### REFERENCES

- Blackwelder, R. E. 1945. Checklist of the coleopterous insects of Mexico, Central America, the West Indies, and South America. Part 3. U. S. Natl. Mus. Bull. 185:343-550.
- . 1949. Studies on the dates of books on Coleoptera. I. Coleop. Bull. 3:42-46.



- Blair, K. G. 1928. Pythidae. Junk and Schenkling's Coleopterorum Catalogus, pars 99, pp. 1-41.
- Blanchard, É. 1845. Histoire des insectes. Tome II. Coléoptères, Orthoptères, Thysanoptères, Néuroptères, Lépidoptères, Hémiptères, Aphaniptères, Strepsiptères, Diptères, Anoplures et Thysanures. (Traité complet d'histoire naturelle. Tome 9.) 524 pp., 20 pls.
- Dejean, P. F. M. A. 1833-1837. Catalogue des Coléoptères de la collection de M. le comte Dejean. [3rd edition] 443 pp. (Pp. 177-256 published June 1834, pp. 257-360 published 1835, according to Blackwelder 1949.)
- Fabricius, J. C. 1801. Systema eleutheratorum. Vol. 2, 687 and 79 pp.
- Gebien, H. 1938-1948. Katalog der Tenebrioniden. Teil I-II. Mitt. Münchner Entomol. Ges., vols. 28-34, 1938-1944 [1938-1948], pagination not consecutive. (Pages pertinent to this study: vol. 28, no. 2, 1938, pp. 397-428; vol. 30, no. 2, 1940, pp. 755-786; vol. 31, no. 1, 1941, pp. 331-362; vol. 34, no. 2, 1944 [1948], pp. 497-555. Complete Teil I-II bound as separates with continuous pagination, pp. 370-899; page numbers in parentheses in my references to Gebien refer to these separates.)
- Gené, J. 1839. De quibusdam insectis Sardiniae novis aut minus cognitis. Fasciculus II. Mem. Accad. Sci. Torino. ser. 2. 1:43-84, 2 pls.
- Guérin-Ménéville, F. E. 1834. Matériaux pour une classification des Mélasomes (Extraits d'une monographie de cette famille). Magasin de Zool. 4 (Mém. Gen.): 1-39, pls. 101-118.
- . 1844. Iconographie du regne animal de G. Cuvier. Vol. 7, insectes, 1829-1838 [1844]. 576 pp., 104 pls.
- Hope, F. W. 1840. The coleopterist's manual. Part 3. 191 pp., 3 pls.
- Kirby, W. 1837. Insects, Coleoptera. In Richardson's Fauna Boreali-Americana; or the zoology of the northern parts of British Americana. 249 pp., illus.
- Laporte de Castelnau, F. L. 1840. Histoire naturelle des insectes. Coléoptères. Vol. 2, 563 pp., 55 pls.
- Lucas, R. 1920. Catalogus alphabeticus generum et subgenerum coleopterorum orbis terrarum totius (famil., trib., subtr., sect. incl.). Pars I. Arch. f. Naturg. 84 (A, 1-5, 1918 [1920]):i-xxxi, 1-696.
- Motschulsky, V. von. 1872. Énumération des nouvelles espèces de coléoptères rapportés de ses voyages. Bull. Soc. Imp. Nat. Moscou. 45(2):23-55.
- Olivier, A. G. Entomologie, ou histoire naturelle des insectes. Coléoptères. Vol. 3, 65 fascicles, each with numbered pages.
- Pallas, S. P. 1781. Icones insectorum praesertim Rossiae Sibiriaeque peculiarium, quae collegit et descriptionibus illustravit. Part I, pp. 1-56.
- Pascoe, F. P. 1860. Notices of new or little-known genera and species of Coleoptera. Entomol. 1:36-64, 2 pls.
- Truqui, E. 1857. Generis Iphthimi characteres. Entomol. Ztg., Entomol. Ver. Stettin. 18(1-3):92-94.



1973. "Nomenclatural problems in six genera of Tenebrionidae (Coleoptera)."  
*Proceedings of the Entomological Society of Washington* 75, 39–44.

**View This Item Online:** <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/55043>

**Permalink:** <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/partpdf/56685>

**Holding Institution**

Smithsonian Libraries and Archives

**Sponsored by**

Smithsonian

**Copyright & Reuse**

Copyright Status: In copyright. Digitized with the permission of the rights holder.

Rights Holder: Entomological Society of Washington

License: <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/3.0/>

Rights: <https://biodiversitylibrary.org/permissions>

This document was created from content at the **Biodiversity Heritage Library**, the world's largest open access digital library for biodiversity literature and archives. Visit BHL at <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org>.