

SOLUBEA BERGROTH, 1891, A SYNONYM OF OEBALUS STÅL, 1862,  
AND  
A NOTE CONCERNING THE DISTRIBUTION OF *O. ORNATUS* (SAILER)  
(HEMIPTERA, PENTATOMIDAE)

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Dr. W. E. China of the British Museum has brought to my attention the fact that *Oebalus* Rafinesque 1815 was and still is a *nomen nudum*. Hence Bergroth's 1891 proposal of *Solubea* as a new name for *Oebalus* Stål, 1862, was without justification and *Solubea* Bergroth must be treated as a synonym of *Oebalus* Stål.

This change of generic name is of importance since the economically important rice stink bugs are involved. Fortunately, the name *Solubea* did not come into general use in economic literature until after 1920, though it became established in taxonomic literature 15 years earlier.

In the following check list of trivial names that must now be placed under the generic name of *Oebalus*, those names currently recognized as valid are in bold face type and synonymous names are in italics. The genus in which the trivial name was originally described is shown in brackets.

CHECK LIST OF TRIVIAL NAMES ASSIGNED TO THE GENUS OEBALUS

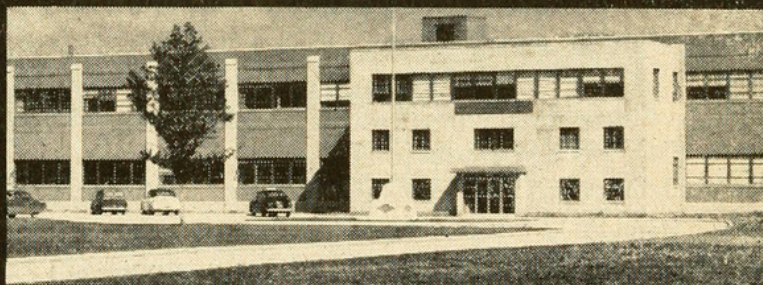
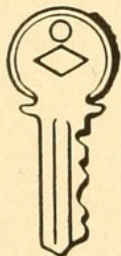
- augur* (Say), 1831 [Pentatoma] = **pugnax** (F.)  
*exigua* (Berg), 1891 [Mormidea] = **poecilus** (Dallas)  
*geographica* (Guérin-Ménéville), 1857 [Pentatoma] (preoccupied) = **insularis** Stål  
*griseus* (Sailer), 1944 [Solubea] **New combination**.  
*guerinii* (Lethierry and Severin), 1893 [Mormidea] (new name for *geographica* G.-M.) = **insularis** Stål  
*inscriptus* (Fabricius), 1803 [Cimex] = **ypsilon-griseus** (DeG.)  
**insularis** Stål, 1872 [Oebalus]  
**linki** (Heidemann), 1917 [Mormidea] **New combination**  
*litteratus* (Gmelin), 1789 [Cimex] = **ypsilon-griseus** (DeG.)  
**mexicanus** (Sailer), 1944 [Solubea] **New combination**  
**ornatus** (Sailer), 1944 [Solubea] **New combination**  
*orthocantha* (Palisot de Beauvois), 1805 [Pentatoma] = **pugnax** (F.)  
**poecilus** (Dallas), 1851 [Mormidea] **New combination**  
*postposita* (Bergroth), 1914 [Solubea] = **poecilus** (Dallas)  
**pugnax** (Fabricius), 1775 [Cimex]  
*rufescens* Haglung, 1868 [Oebalus] = **poecilus** (Dallas)  
*similis* Kuhlitz, 1902 as variety of *insularis* [Oebalus] = **poecilus** (Dallas)  
**torridus** (Sailer), 1944 [Solubea] as subspecies of *pugnax* = **pugnax torridus**  
 (Sailer) **New combination**  
*typhoeus* (Fabricius), 1803 [Cimex] = **pugnax** (F.)  
*vitripennis* (Burmeister), 1835 [Cimex] = **pugnax** (F.)  
**ypsilon-griseus** (DeGeer), 1773 [Cimex]  
*ypsilonoides* Berg, 1879 [Oebalus] = **ypsilon-griseus** (DeG.)



Except for Rafinesque, 1815, references to the literature mentioned above may be found in Sailer, R. I., 1944, The Genus *Solubea* (Heteroptera: Pentatomidae). Proc. Ent. Soc. Wash. 46(5): 105-127. The reference to Rafinesque's work is as follows: *Analyse de la Nature, ou Tableau de l'Univers et des Corps Organises*. Palerme, 1815, page 140. (See Complete Writings of C. Z. Rafinesque on Recent and Fossil Conchology, edited by Wm. G. Binney and G. W. Tryon, Jr., Bailliere Brothers, New York, 1864, 96 pages.)

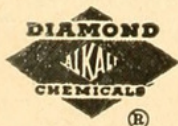
At the time I described *ornatus* it was known from the islands of Puerto Rico and Hispaniola, where the species is common. In addition, I reported three specimens from Cali, Colombia, which I thought might have been mislabeled, since I had no other records from either Central or South America. Subsequently, specimens of *ornatus* were sent to me from a locality 47 kilometers from Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, along the highway to Sao Paulo, where they were collected by Dr. Petr Wygodzinsky on November 12, 1943.

The discovery of *ornatus* so far south in Brazil raises a question concerning the identity of *Mormidea exigua* Berg. Using Berg's description and the distribution of *poecilus* as guides, I concluded that *exigua* could be only a synonym of *poecilus*. Since *poecilus* and *ornatus* can be distinguished only by differences found in the male and female genital structures, the certain identity of *exigua* must be decided by an examination of the genitalia of the type specimen. Should these prove identical with *ornatus* (Sailer, 1944), this name will fall as a synonym of *exigua* Berg, 1891.



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Sailer, R. I. 1957. "Solubea Bergroth, 1891, A Synonym Of Oebalus Stal, 1862, And A Note Concerning The Distribution Of O. Ornatus (Sailer) (Hemiptera, Pentatomidae)." *Proceedings of the Entomological Society of Washington* 59, 41–42.

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