

SCARABAEUS FULVUS GOEZE, 1777 (CURRENTLY EUONITICELLUS FULVUS), A VALID NAME (COLEOPTERA, SCARABAEIDAE)

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Abstract: Facts are presented that, in accordance with Article 23.9 of the Code, warrant *Scarabaeus fulvus* Goeze, 1777, despite a junior primary homonym of *Scarabaeus fulvus* DeGeer, 1774, the status of valid name (as a *nomen protectum*) for the species currently known as *Euoniticellus fulvus* (Goeze, 1777).

Keywords: Scarabaeidae, Article 23.9 of the Code, reversal of precedence, *Scarabaeus fulvus* Goeze, 1777, valid name.

Scarabaeus fulvus Goeze, 1777 (currently *Euoniticellus fulvus*), a junior primary homonym of *Scarabaeus fulvus* DeGeer, 1774, is one of several cases where a junior primary homonym is in prevailing usage. This situation is prone to cause nomenclatural instability, an instance of which is found in ADAM (1994) who, for the very reason of the homonymy, uses as the valid name *Scarabaeus flavipes* Fabricius 1781, the oldest available synonym of *Scarabaeus fulvus* Goeze, 1777. If nomenclatural instability is to be averted, that situation has to be addressed.

To maintain the prevailing usage, a reversal of precedence (Article 29.3 of the INTERNATIONAL CODE OF ZOOLOGICAL NOMENCLATURE) is required.

Article 23.9.1 of the Code stipulates that the prevailing usage must be maintained when the following conditions are both met: 23.9.1.1. the senior homonym has not been used as a valid name after 1899, and 23.9.1.2. the junior homonym has been used for a particular taxon, as its presumed valid name, in at least 25 works, published by at least 10 authors in the immediately preceding 50 years and encompassing a span of not less than 10 years.

DEGEER (1774, pages 277-278) writes:

«Scarabé fauve.

23. SCARABE à écusson, roux jaunâtre à yeux noirs & à longues pattes, à deux points noirs sur le corcelet. *Scarabaeus* (fulvus) *suctellatus flavo-rufus oculis nigris, thorace punctis binis nigris, pedibus longissimis*. *Scarabaeus* (brunnus) *scutellatus muticus rufo-testaceus, elytris striatis, thorace utrinque puncto notato*. *Linn. Faun. Ed. 2. n°1. 396. Syst. Ed. 12. P. 556. n°1. 72.*

Scarabaeus fulvus, oculis nigris, thorace glabro. *Geoffr. Ins. Tom. 1. p. 83. n°1. 22.* Le Scarabé fauve aux yeux noirs.

Voet Scarab. Tab. 7 Fig. 53.

*Pl. 10. Fig. 17.

Les Scarabés de cette espèce* ne sont pas rares, on les trouve souvent dans les prés & sur les plantes. Ils sont au dessous de la grandeur médiocre, longs de quatre & demie & larges d'un peu plus que deux lignes. Leur couleur est par-tout d'un roux jaunâtre, mais les yeux sont noirs.

Ils ont un petit écusson sur le dos, & les étuis ont des canelures longitudinales peu profondes. De chaque côté du corcelet, vers le bord latéral, il y a un petit point noirâtre, & la tête est d'un roux plus obscur que le corps & presque brun. Le corps est gros & ovale, & les pattes sont longues & déliées. Le bouton des antennes est composé de trois feuillets très-longs, ou de la longueur de la tête, mais fort étroits.» In this and a few other instances of species described by both Geoffroy and Linnaeus, DeGeer ascribes priority to GEOFFROY'S "Histoire abrégée des insectes qui se trouvent aux environs de Paris" (1762), even though quoting LINNAEUS 2nd edition of "Fauna Suecica" (1761), and latinizes the name coined by Geoffroy, or part of it. Geoffroy's work was suppressed for nomenclatural purposes in what species names are concerned (ICZN, Opinions 228 (1954) and 1754 (1994)). Consequently, by making Geoffroy's species names available, DEGEER (1774) became their author.

It is evident from DeGeer's text that his *Scarabaeus fulvus* is a junior synonym of *Scarabaeus brunus* Linnaeus, 1758 (currently *Serica brunnea*). That synonymy was formally published by SCHÖNHERR, 1817 (page 178), wherefore *Scarabaeus fulvus* DeGeer, 1774 has hardly ever been used as a valid name, and certainly not after 1899. Hence, the first condition of Article 23.9.1 is met.

As for the second condition of Article 23.9.1, I provide below a list of 25 works published in the last 50 years, by 21 (first) authors and encompassing a span of 48 years, where *fulvus* (Goeze, 1777) is used as the presumed valid name for this well-known species:

1. JANSSENS, A. 1953. Exploration du Parc National de l'Upemba. Mission G. F. de Witte en collaboration avec W. Adam, A. Janssens, L. van Meel, et R. Verheyen (1946-1949). Oniticellini (Coleoptera Lamellicornia). *Institut des Parcs Nationaux du Congo Belge*, 11. 118 pp. [page 52]
2. MIKŠI, R. 1953. Fauna insectorum Balcanica - Scarabaeidae. 15. Beitrag zur Kenntnis der Scarabaeiden. *Godisnjaka Bioloskog Instituta u Sarajevu*, 6: 49-281. [page 65]
3. PANIN, S. 1957. *Fauna Republicii Populare Romine, Insecta*, 10 (4). *Coleoptera, Familia Scarabaeidae (Subfamiliile: I Coprinae, II Geotrupinae, III Aphodiinae, IV Aegialinae, V Hybosorinae, VI Ochodaeinae, VII Orphninae, VIII Troginae, IX Glaphyrinae, X Sericinae, XIII Hoplinae, XIV*

- Dynastinae, XV Valginae, XVI Trichiinae și XVII Cetoniinae). Academiei Republicii Populare Romime, Bucharest, 315 pp, 36 pls. [page 68]
4. TESAĽ, Z. 1957. *Brouci Listoroží Lamellicornia, II. Scarabaeidae Laparostictí. Fauna „SR, 11. Nakladatelství „eskoslovenské Akademie V d, Praha. 326 pp, 16 pls. [page 124]*
 5. PAULIAN, R. 1959. *Faune de France, 63: Coléoptères Scarabéides* (Deuxième édition). Lechevalier, Paris. 298 pp. [page 79]
 6. JANSSENS, A. 1960. *Faune de Belgique. Insectes Coléoptères Lamellicornes*. Institut royal des Sciences naturelle de Belgique, Bruxelles. 411 pp. [page 254]
 7. BALTHASAR, V. 1963. *Monographie der Scarabeidae und Aphodiidae der palaearktischen und orientalischen Region (Coleoptera: Lamellicornia). Band 2. Coprinae (Onitini, Oniticellini, Onthophagini)*. Tschechoslowakischen Akademie der Wissenschaften, Prague, 627 pp, 16 pls. [pages 74]
 8. BÁGUENA, L. 1967. *Scarabaeoidea de la fauna Ibero-Balear y Pirenaica*, Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas, Madrid, xi + 576 pp. [page 96]
 9. IABLOKOFF-KHNZORIAN, S. M. 1967. *Fauna Armyanskoi SSR, Nasekomye zhestokrylye. Tom VI. Plastintchaousye (Scarabaeoidea)*. Izdatielstvo Akadiemii Nauk Armyanskoi SSR, Erevan, 226 pp. [page 124]
 10. MACHATSCHKE, J. W. 1969. *Familienreihe Lamellicornia. In Freude, H., K. W. Harde & G. A. Lohse, Die Käfer Mitteleuropas, Vol. 8 (Teredilia, Heteromera, Lamellicornia)*, Goecke & Evers, Krefeld: 265-371. [page 283]
 11. DURAND, H. 1970. Contribution à la connaissance des Scarabaeoidea de Turquie. *L'Entomologiste*, Paris, **26**: 55-61. [page 57]
 12. BARAUD, J. 1977. *Coléoptères Scarabaeoidea. Faune de l'Europe occidentale: Belgique, France, Grande-Bretagne, Italie, Péninsule Ibérique*. Supplément à la Nouvelle Revue d'Entomologie, 7(1), Toulouse, 352 pp. [page 34]
 13. PAULIAN, R. & BARAUD, J. 1982. *Faune des Coléoptères de France. II, Lucanoidea et Scarabaeoidea*. Encyclopédie Entomologique, Editions Lechevalier, Paris, 43, 477 pp, 16 pls. [page 254]
 14. SALGADO, J. M. & DELGADO, A. 1982. Contribución al conocimiento de los Scarabaeoidea (Col.) coprófagos de la Provincia de León. *Boletín de la Asociación Española de Entomología*, Salamanca, **6**: 17-27. [page 21]
 15. BARAUD, J. 1985. *Coléoptères Scarabaeoidea. Faune du Nord de l'Afrique du Maroc au Sinaï*. Encyclopédie Entomologique, 46. Lechevalier, Paris. 652 pp. [page 265]
 16. NIKOLAJEV, G. V. 1987. *Plastintchatousie Zhuki (Coleoptera, Scarabaeoidea) Kazakhstana i Srednei Azii*. Akademiia Nauk Kazakhskoi SSR, Alma-Ata, 222 pp. [page 74]
 17. CARPANETO, G.M. & PIATTELLA, E. 1988. I Coleotteri Scarabaeoidea Laparosticti dei Monti Cimini (Antiappennino Laziale) (Coleoptera, Scarabaeoidea). *Bolletino dell'Associazione Romana di Entomologia*, 42 (1987): 41-61. [page 47]
 18. BAHILLO DE LA PUEBLA, P. 1990. Contribución al conocimiento de las especies de Scarabaeoidea coprófagas (Col. Phytophaga) del País Vasco, II: Fam. Scarabaeidae. *Estudios del Museo de Ciencias Naturales de Alava*, **5**: 111-135. [page 117]
 19. LUMARET, J-P. 1990. *Atlas des coléoptères Scarabéides Laparosticti de France*. Secrétariat de la Faune et de la Flore, Paris. 418 pp. [page 62]
 20. BARAUD, J. 1992. *Coléoptères Scarabaeoidea d'Europe. Faune de France et régions limitrophes. 78*. Fédération Française des Sociétés de Sciences Naturelle & Société Linéenne de Lyon. ix + 856 pp, xi pls. [page 328]
 21. KRELL, F.-T. 1995. Die Lamellicornia (Coleoptera) der Käfersammlung Dr. Theodor Hübner in den Naturkundlichen Sammlungen der Stadt Ulm, Bundesrepublik Deutschland. *Mitteilungen des Vereins für Naturwissenschaft und Mathematik Ulm/Donau*, 36/37 (1993-1995): 49-87. [page 55]
 22. SPARACIO, I. 1995. *Coleotteri di Sicilia. Parte Prima. L'Epos Società Editrice*. 238 pp. [page 204]
 23. ZIANI, S. 1997. Scarabaeoidea Laparosticti di Cipro: un primo quadro d'insieme sulla fauna dell'isola (Coleoptera). *Biocosme Méditerranéenne*, Nice, **14**: 1-38. [page 6]
 24. BUNALSKI, M. 1999. *Die Blatthornkäfer Mitteleuropas, Coleoptera, Scarabaeoidea. Bestimmung - Verbreitung - Ökologie*. František Slamka, Bratislava, 80 pp. [page 10]
 25. MARTÍN-PIERA, F. 2000. Familia Scarabaeidae. In: Martín-Piera, F. & López-Colón, J. I. , *Coleoptera, Scarabaeoidea I. Fauna Ibérica*, vol. 14. Ramos, M. A. et al. (Eds.). Museo Nacional de Ciencias Naturales. CSIC. Madrid: 205-432. [page 347]
- In conclusion, as shown above the two conditions of Article 23.9.1 are both met. Therefore, in accordance with Article 23.9.2 of the Code, *Scarabaeus fulvus* Goeze, 1777 ought to be given precedence (as a *nomen protectum*) over *Scarabaeus fulvus* DeGeer, 1774 (a *nomen oblitum*), and must be used as the valid name.

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