

***Echinocerus* Mulsant, 1862 is a valid genus (Coleoptera, Cerambycidae)**

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Recently, Kasatkin (2005) revised the genus *Plagionotus* Mulsant, 1842 and divided it into three different genera: *Plagionotus*, *Neoplacionotus* Kasatkin, 2005 and *Paraplagionotus* Kasatkin, 2005, this latter being a replacement name for *Echinocerus* Mulsant, "1863 (non White, 1848)". The purpose of this note is not a taxonomical one and I will not comment on the suitability of the characters used for this separation. This is a nomenclatural note, whose publication could have been avoided, had Kasatkin had knowledge of the facts published in Vives & Alonso-Zarazaga (2000).

In the latter, a list of synonyms of the genera and species of the Iberian fauna, the genus *Echinocerus* Mulsant, 1862 is used as valid (as it was in the descriptive part of the work). This would not have happened if Mulsant's name were a homonym. While preparing this list, I noticed that Neave (1939, p. 183) included *Echinocerus* White, 1848 in his list of genus-group names in Zoology, with the note "(pro Echidno- White 1842)". This was the clue that something irregular happened with White's name and I checked his paper in the Library of the Museo Nacional de Ciencias Naturales in Madrid.

White described a new Northern American crab in his own previously described genus *Echidnocerus* White, 1842. The generic name is correctly spelled in the plate caption but incorrectly throughout the text (including the title) as *Echinocerus*. There is no indication that the author wanted to intentionally change the original spelling in the text, so the spelling *Echinocerus* is an incorrect subsequent spelling (Art. 33.3 of the International Code of Zoological Nomenclature). According to this, it is an unavailable name and it does not enter into homonymy. This is the reason why in Vives & Alonso-Zarazaga (2000, p. 590) White's name is not mentioned. Not competing into homonymy, it is evident that *Echinocerus* Mulsant, 1862, is the valid name for this taxon and consequently, I synonymize here *Paraplagionotus* Kasatkin, 2005, **syn. nov.**, with it. Consequently, its only species is correctly named *Echinocerus floralis* (Pallas, 1773).

In Vives & Alonso-Zarazaga (2000, p. 655-656) a long discussion of the dates and parts in which Mulsant's work appeared were given, substantiating thus the dates given by Neave (*l.c.*).

González Peña *et al.* (2007) have recently published a new catalogue of the Cerambycidae of the Iberian and Macaronesian

Fauna. It is unfortunate that the valuable text has spelling errors and many other mistakes, that could have been easily spotted by a careful revision from the part of authors and reviewers. In addition, the uncritical follow-up of Kasatkin's action regarding *Echinocerus* Mulsant, contrary to the Code rules, is an unnecessary demerit to what could have been a good work. Most of the nomenclatural (not taxonomic!) problems for the Iberian Cerambycidae were already solved by Vives & Alonso-Zarazaga (2000). Even so, the authors still insist in writing *Tetrops praeusta*, contravening Art. 30.1.4.3 of the Code, that states that all generic names ending in *-ops* are masculine, regardless of its derivation or of its treatment by its author. This is an unexplainable situation, given the fact that one of the authors of the Catalogue (E. Vives) is also the author for the nomenclature in Vives & Alonso-Zarazaga (2000) and he should know his own publications. In the latter, the correct name *Tetrops praeustus* is used on p. 654 and the gender change explained on p. 661. While the zoologists do not know and do not use correctly the Code, these situations will tediously appear once and again, leading us to boredom.

References: GONZÁLEZ PEÑA, C.F., E. VIVES I NOGUERA & A.J. DE S. ZUZARTE 2007. Nuevo catálogo de los Cerambycidae (Coleoptera) de la Península Ibérica, islas Baleares e islas atlánticas: Canarias, Açores y Madeira. *Monografías S.E.A.*, 12: 1-211. ● KASATKIN, D.G. 2005. About a system of a the genus *Plagionotus* sensu lato (Coleoptera: Cerambycidae: Clytini). *Kavkazskij entomologicheskij byulleten*, 1(1): 49-54. ● NEAVE, S.A. 1939. *Nomenclator Zoologicus. A list of the names of genera and subgenera in Zoology from the tenth edition of Linnaeus 1758 to the end of 1935*. Vol. 2: D-L. The Zoological Society, London. 1025 pp. ● VIVES, E. & M.A. ALONSO-ZARAZAGA 2000. Apéndice 1. Nomenclatura: Lista de sinónimos y combinaciones. Pp. 567-661. *In: Vives, E. Coleoptera, Cerambycidae. In: Ramos, M.A. et al. (Eds.). Fauna Ibérica*, 12. Museo Nacional de Ciencias Naturales, CSIC, Madrid. 716 pp., 5 pl. ● WHITE, A. 1848. Description of *Echinocerus cibarius*, a new species and subgenus of Crustacea. *Proceedings of the Zoological Society of London*, 16: 47-49 + 1 pl.