

The nomenclaturally correct names of some family-groups in Coleoptera

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The International Code on Zoological Nomenclature demands changes in the use of certain family-group names. Stenotrachelidae Thomson, 1859, is senior to Cephaloidea LeConte, 1862. Within Cholevidae, Leptodirinae Lacordaire, 1854 (1849), is senior to Bathysciinae Horn, 1880, and within Curculionidae, Eriirhininae Schönherr, 1825, to Notarinae Zumpt, 1929. In Chrysomelidae: Cryptocephalinae, the invalid name Monachini Chapuis, 1874, is replaced with Monachulini Leng, 1920, and in Chrysomelidae: Galerucinae, the invalid name Sermlyni Chapuis, 1875, with Hylaspini Chapuis, 1875.

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The International Code on Zoological Nomenclature has for some time now subjected also the family-group names to the laws of homonymy and priority. This fact has not yet been generally appraised. Also, it is not always easy to find the true author and year for a particular name, since catalogues and comparable lists often refer to revisions or similar larger works although the name had been introduced in an earlier paper.

In this paper I present some cases, in which the Code demands that current use be changed. If it seems that the names involved are so well established that a change would cause confusion, an application should be made to the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature.

Leptodirinae Lacordaire, 1854 (1849)

The name Leptodirinae (family Cholevidae) was introduced by Lacordaire (1854:195, as *Lep-todérides*); it is based upon *Leptodirus* Schmidt, 1832, and the spelling should accordingly be cor-

rected. Lacordaire himself mentioned an earlier name for the group, namely Stagobiinae Schiödte (1849:16). Stagobiinae was based upon *Stagobium* Schiödte, 1848, which Lacordaire synonymized with *Leptodirus*. The name Leptodirinae has afterwards been occasionally used, while the name Stagobiinae has been entirely forgotten. In such a case Article 40b of the Code states that the junior family-group name, which is based upon the senior generic name, takes precedence, and gets the priority of the senior name.

The genus *Leptodirus* has generally been included in the subfamily Bathysciinae Horn, 1880, which is thus a junior synonym of Leptodirinae. Bathysciinae has recently mostly been included in Cholevidae Kirby, 1837. In some cases, e.g. Arnett (1961), Leptodiridae has been used as a name for the family, being referred to Solier, 1834. In fact Solier (1834:495) did refer to a family “*Les Leptodérides*”, but this name was descriptive, and not based upon a generic name; it consisted of three tribes: Lagriites, Pythites and Rhinosimites (whose names were based on generic names). Solier’s

name has accordingly no status as a family-group name, and cannot be considered a senior homonym.

Bathysciinae is a fairly well known name, used not only in systematic works but also for instance in connection with ecology and zoogeography. Possibly the Commission on Nomenclature should be asked to preserve it.

Stenotrachelidae Thomson, 1859

Stenotrachelidae, based upon *Stenotrachelus* Latreille, 1825, was introduced by Thomson in 1859 (p. 124), Cephaloidae, based upon *Cephaloon* Newman, 1838, by LeConte in 1862 (p. 259). They have recently been considered subfamilies within one family, and the family takes accordingly the senior name.

Monachulini Leng, 1920

In Chrysomelidae: Cryptocephalinae there has been recognized a tribe Monachini Chapuis, 1874 (p. 172, as Monachites). This tribe is based upon the genus *Monachus* Chevrolat, 1837, nec Fleming, 1822. Under Article 39 a family-group name that is based upon a junior homonym is invalid, and must be replaced by the oldest available synonym. That is Monachulini Leng, 1920 (p. 290, based on the generic replacement name *Monachus* Leng, 1918), a name that seems to have been forgotten, and was not even mentioned in the list of Chrysomelid genera by Seeno & Wilcox (1982).

Hylaspini Chapuis, 1875

In the recent classification of Chrysomelidae: Galerucinae (Wilcox 1971) a tribe Sermlyni was used for several groups of genera; that name was introduced by Chapuis (1875:224) as Sermlylites. However, Sermlyni was based upon *Sermyla* Chapuis, 1875 nec Walker, 1854. Under Article 39 such a family-group name must be replaced by the oldest available synonym. As listed by Wilcox, several named genus groups fall within Sermlyni, among them the names Hylaspites Chapuis, 1875

(p. 237, based on *Hylaspes* Baly, 1865), and Agelasticites Chapuis, 1875 (p. 167, based on *Agelastica* Chevrolat, 1837) are available as replacement names; neither has so far been used subordinate to the other. I choose Hylaspini to replace Sermlyni.

The names for the genus groups are subject to the same provisions, and Sermlylites must also be replaced. As there are no available synonyms, the replacement name must be based on the valid name of the type genus, that is *Sermylassa* Reitter, 1912, and the genus group will accordingly be known as Sermylassites.

Eriirhininae Schönherr, 1825

Eriirhininae (family Curculionidae) was introduced by Schönherr (1825:582, as Eriirhinides), with *Eriirhinus* Schönherr, 1825, as type genus. Because *Eriirhinus* is a junior subjective synonym of *Notaris* Germar, 1817, Zumpt (1929:216) introduced Notarini as a replacement name for Eriirhinini. Article 40 says that such a replacement name, introduced before 1961, is to be maintained if it has won general acceptance. In this case there has been no general acceptance; Eriirhininae/Eriirhinini has been used at least as much as the replacement name. The use of Eriirhininae is thus to be continued. The spelling Eriirrhininae, which is often encountered, is an unjustified emendation.

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