

## Comments on the name *Ancistronycha violacea* (Paykull) (Coleoptera: Cantharidae)

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The name *Ancistronycha violacea* (Paykull) is a junior homonym. The name previously used to replace it, *Ancistronycha cyanipennis* (Faldermann), has been found to refer to another species. The valid name for the species is *Ancistronycha tigurina* (Dietrich, 1857).

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Thunberg (1784) described from South Africa a species *Cantharis violacea*. It was long listed as a *Cantharis*-species (e.g. Delkeskamp 1939), but has since been transferred to the genus *Afronycha* Wittmer, 1949.

Paykull (1798) described from Sweden another species *Cantharis violacea*. Since that name is a junior primary homonym, it was replaced with *Cantharis cyanipennis* Faldermann, 1835, which was then considered the oldest available synonym (Silfverberg 1977).

*Cantharis cyanipennis* has been shown to be a different species and transferred to a new genus *Islamocantharis* (Švihla 1999). In the new Palaearctic catalogue (Kazantsev & Brancucci 2007) it is included in the genus *Cordicantharis* Švihla.

In that catalogue Paykull's species is listed as *Ancistronycha violacea*. The name is still a junior primary homonym, and cannot stand unless validated by the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature. No application for that has to my knowledge been made, nor would I consider it necessary. The catalogue lists several synonyms, the oldest ones being *violacea* Dietrich, 1857 and *tigurina* Dietrich, 1857.

Actually Dietrich (1857) gave a description of “*Telephorus violaceus* Payk. (?)”, and of “*Telephorus tigurinus* mihi”. The former was thus no new species, and would anyhow have been homonymous. The latter name is available. Paykull's species will accordingly be known as *Ancistronycha tigurina* (Dietrich, 1857).

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