

OPINION 2039 (Case 3159)***Staphylinus maculosus* and *S. violaceus* Gravenhorst, 1802 (currently *Platydracus maculosus* and *P. violaceus*; Insecta, Coleoptera): usage of the specific names conserved**

Abstract. The Commission has ruled (1) that the widely used staphylinid name *Platydracus maculosus* (Gravenhorst, 1802) is conserved by suppressing its senior subjective synonym *Staphylinus viduatus* Fabricius, 1801, which has been used only once in the past 160 years, and (2) that the specific name of *Platydracus violaceus* (Gravenhorst, 1802) is not invalid by reason of being a junior primary homonym of *Staphylinus violaceus* Olivier, 1795.

Keywords. Nomenclature; taxonomy; Coleoptera; STAPHYLINIDAE; *Platydracus*; *Platydracus maculosus*; *Platydracus violaceus*; rove beetles.

Ruling

- (1) Under the plenary power it is ruled that:
 - (a) the name *viduatus* Fabricius, 1801, as published in the binomen *Staphylinus viduatus*, is hereby suppressed for the purposes of the Principle of Priority but not for those of the Principle of Homonymy;
 - (b) the name *violaceus* Gravenhorst, 1802, as published in the binomen *Staphylinus violaceus*, is not invalid by reason of being a junior primary homonym of *Staphylinus violaceus* Olivier, 1795.
- (2) The following names are hereby placed on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology:
 - (a) *maculosus* Gravenhorst, 1802, as published in the binomen *Staphylinus maculosus*;
 - (b) *violaceus* Gravenhorst, 1802,* as published in the binomen *Staphylinus violaceus* (not invalid by the ruling in (1)(b) above).
- (3) The name *viduatus* Fabricius, 1801, as published in the binomen *Staphylinus viduatus* and as suppressed in (1)(a) above, is hereby placed on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Specific Names in Zoology.

History of Case 3159

An application to (1) conserve the widely used staphylinid name *Staphylinus maculosus* Gravenhorst, 1802 by suppression of its senior subjective synonym *Staphylinus viduatus* Fabricius, 1801 and (2) to conserve the specific name of *Staphylinus violaceus* Gravenhorst, 1802 was received from A.F. Newton (*Field Museum of Natural History, South Lake Shore Drive, Chicago, Illinois, U.S.A.*) on 8 May 2000. After correspondence the case was published in BZN **58**: 210–214 (September 2001). The title, abstract and keywords of the case were published on the Commission's website. No comments on this case were received.

Decision of the Commission

On 1 December 2002 the members of the Commission were invited to vote on the proposals published in BZN 58: 212–213. At the close of the voting period on 1 March 2003 the votes were as follows: 23 Commissioners voted FOR the proposals, no Commissioners voted AGAINST, Štys abstained, no vote was received from Mahnert, Ng was on leave of absence.

Original references

The following are the original references to the names placed on an Official List and an Official Index by the ruling given in the present Opinion:

- maculosus*, *Staphylinus*, Gravenhorst, 1802, *Coleoptera Microptera Brunsvicensia*, p. 165.
viduatus, *Staphylinus*, Fabricius, 1801, *Systema Eleutheratorum* . . . , vol. 2, p. 591.
violaceus, *Staphylinus*, Gravenhorst, 1802, *Coleoptera Microptera Brunsvicensia*, p. 162.