

**OPINION 2140 (Case 3275)*****Metromenus* Sharp, 1884 (Insecta, Coleoptera): usage conserved by designation of *Dyscolus palmae* Blackburn, 1877 as the type species**

**Abstract.** The Commission has ruled that the usage of the name *Metromenus* Sharp, 1884 is conserved for a group of ground beetles (CARABIDAE) by validating Lorenz's (1998) designation of *Dyscolus palmae* Blackburn, 1877 (currently *Blackburnia palmae*) as the type species.

**Keywords.** Nomenclature; taxonomy; Coleoptera; CARABIDAE; *Blackburnia*; *Metromenus*; *Anchomenus mysticus*; *Metromenus palmae*; Hawaii; ground beetles.

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**Ruling**

- (1) Under the plenary power it is hereby ruled that all previous fixations of type species for the nominal genus *Metromenus* Sharp, 1884 before the designation of *Dyscolus palmae* Blackburn, 1877 by Lorenz (1998) are hereby set aside.
- (2) The name *Metromenus* Sharp, 1884 (gender: masculine), type species by subsequent designation by Lorenz (1998) *Dyscolus palmae* Blackburn, 1877, as ruled in (1) above, is hereby placed on the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology.
- (3) The name *palmae* Blackburn, 1877, as published in the binomen *Dyscolus palmae* (specific name of the type species of *Metromenus* Sharp, 1884), is hereby placed on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology.

**History of Case 3275**

An application to conserve the usage of the name *Metromenus* Sharp, 1884 for a group of ground beetles (CARABIDAE) by validating Lorenz's (1998) designation of *Dyscolus palmae* Blackburn, 1877 (currently *Blackburnia palmae*) as the type species was received from James K. Liebherr (*Department of Entomology, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY, U.S.A.*), Gordon M. Nishida (*Hawaii Biological Survey, B.P. Bishop Museum, Honolulu, HI, U.S.A.*), Elwood C. Zimmerman (*Tura Beach, N.S.W., Australia*) and Yves Bousquet (*Eastern Cereal and Oilseed Research Centre, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada*) on 10 March 2003. After correspondence the case was published in BZN 61: 90–91 (June 2004). 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 September 2005 the members of the Commission were invited to vote on the proposals published in BZN 61: 91. At the close of the voting period on 1 December 2005 the votes were as follows:

Affirmative votes – 17: Bock, Bouchet, Brothers, Calder, Fortey, Halliday, Kerzhner, Macpherson, Mahnert, Mawatari, Minelli, Nielsen, Papp, Patterson, Rosenberg, Song and van Tol.

Negative votes – 3: Alonso-Zarazaga, Lamas and Štys.

No vote was received from Ng.

Voting against, Alonso-Zarazaga commented that 'this application fails to propose what to do with *Anchomenus mysticus* Blackburn, 1877 and *Mysticomenus* Sharp, 1903, two names involved in the resolution of this case, which should have been requested to be placed on the Lists'. Also voting against, Štys commented that 'the pertinent facts provided by the authors of the application call for employment of the Principle of Priority. The authors do not provide any evidence that the names involved are of general importance and are widely used'.

### Original references

The following are the original references to the names placed on Official Lists by the ruling given in the present Opinion:

*Metromenus* Sharp, 1884, *Entomologist's Monthly Magazine*, **20**: 217.

*palmae*, *Dyscolus*, Blackburn, 1877, *Entomologist's Monthly Magazine*, **14**: 147.

The following is the reference for the designation of *Dyscolus palmae* Blackburn, 1877 as the type species of the nominal genus *Metromenus* Sharp, 1884:

**Lorenz, W.** 1998. *Nomina Carabidarum, a directory of the scientific names of ground beetles*, p. 116.