Case 3194

Lius Deyrolle, 1865 (Insecta, Coleoptera): proposed conservation

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Abstract. The purpose of this application, under Article 23.9.3 of the Code, is to conserve the generic name *Lius* Deyrolle, 1865 for a group of jewel beetles (family BUPRESTIDAE) by suppressing its unused senior primary homonym *Lius* Chevrolat, 1838.

Keywords. Nomenclature; taxonomy; Coleoptera; BUPRESTIDAE; *Lius*; *Lius ignitus*; buprestids; jewel beetles.

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1. Dejean (1833, p. 83) used the beetle generic name *Lius*, which he attributed to 'Eschscholtz' without a date. He gave no description of the genus, but included seven specific names. However, these are all nomina nuda, and so the name *Lius* Dejean is not available from this work. Dejean (1833) also introduced the beetle generic name *Brachys* (p. 83) without description but included *Trachys tessellata* Fabricius, 1801 and four nomina nuda. Thus *Brachys* is an available name under Article 12.2.5 of the Code and *T. tessellata* is the type species by monotypy. In the same year, Solier (1833, p. 312) provided a description for *Brachys* and listed *Trachys tessellata* as the only included species.

2. In 1838 (p. 104), Chevrolat used the generic name *Lius* for a new nominal species, *Lius deplanatus* (a jewel beetle; family BUPRESTIDAE). Saunders (1871, p. 135) transferred *L. deplanatus* Chevrolat, 1838 to *Pachyschelus* Solier, 1833 (the type species by monotypy is *Pachyschelus scutellatus* Solier, 1833), thus treating *Lius* Chevrolat, 1838 as a junior subjective synonym of *Pachyschelus*.

3. Deyrolle (1865, p. 219) used the name *Lius* in a key and attributed three nominal buprestid species to it in a footnote as 'types du genre: *Br. ignitus*, *aculeatus*, *exiguus*, etc. Gory'.

4. Cobos (1979, p. 425) subsequently designated *Brachys ignitus* Gory & Laporte, 1840 (p. 6) as the type species of *Lius* Deyrolle, 1865.

5. All authors subsequent to Deyrolle's (1865) diagnosis of *Lius* have attributed authorship of this name to Deyrolle including Waterhouse (1889, p. 135); Kerremans (1892, p. 294; 1893, p. 122; 1903, p. 321); Obenberger (1937, p. 1345); Blackwelder (1944, p. 338); Bellamy (1985, p. 428) and Holyński (1993, p. 15).

6. Although the name *Lius* Deyrolle, 1865 is a junior homonym of *Lius* as used by Chevrolat (1838), the name has not been used in its earlier sense because *Lius* Chevrolat, 1838 is a junior synonym of *Pachyschelus* Solier, 1833. As *Lius* Chevrolat, 1838 has not been used since 1899, it qualifies as a nomen oblitum under Article 23.9.1.1. The name *Lius* Deyrolle, 1865 has been in considerable use for *Brachys ignitus* Gory & Laporte, 1840 and related species (see para. 5 above). Despite this, the

name has not had sufficient usage to allow its 'automatic' conservation under Article 23.9.2. So this case is brought to the Commission under the provision of Article 23.9.3.

7. The International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature is accordingly asked:

(1) to use its plenary power to suppress the generic name *Lius* Chevrolat, 1838 for the purposes of both the Principle of Priority and the Principle of Homonymy;

(2) to place on the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology the name *Lius* Deyrolle, 1865 (gender: masculine), type species by subsequent designation by Cobos (1979) *Brachys ignitus* Gory & Laporte, 1840;

(3) to place on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology the name *ignitus* Gory & Laporte, 1840, as published in the binomen *Brachys ignitus* (specific name of the type species of *Lius* Deyrolle, 1865);

(4) to place on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Generic Names in Zoology the name *Lius* Chevrolat, 1838, as suppressed in (1) above.

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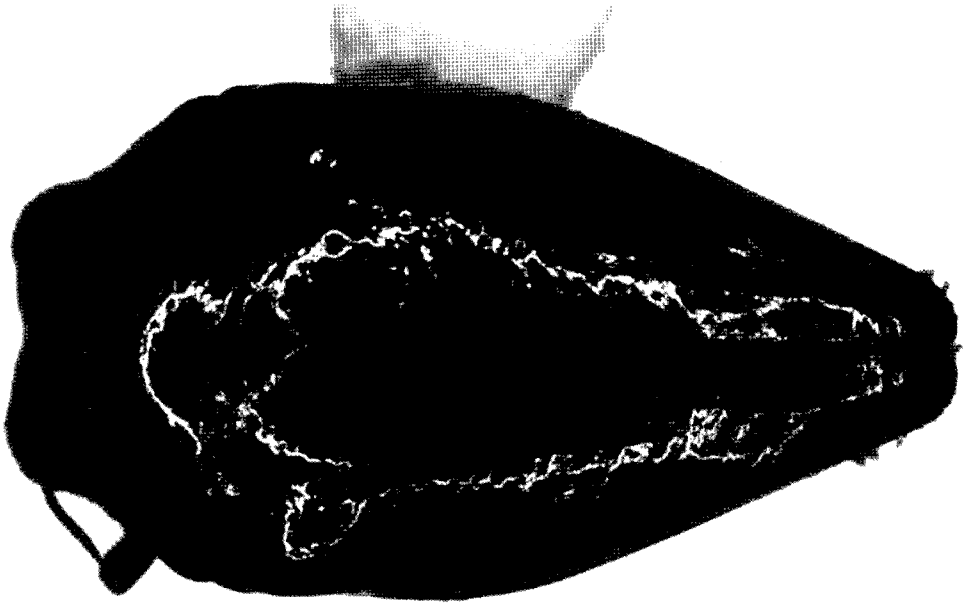

Fig. 1. *Lius simulator* Obenberger, 1924.

Fig. 2. *Pachyschelus signatus* Waterhouse, 1889.