The valid name for the genus *Loxocephalus* Foerster, 1862 (Insecta, Hymenoptera: Braconidae), preoccupied by *Loxocephalus* Eberhard, 1862 (Protozoa: Ciliophora)

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Key words: Hymenoptera; Braconidae; Euphorinae; Protozoa; Ciliophora; *Loxocephalus*; Palaearctic; homonymy.

*Loxocephalus* Foerster, 1862 (Insecta: Braconidae) is preoccupied by *Loxocephalus* Eberhard, 1862 (Protozoa: Ciliophora). The name previously used for *Loxocephalus* Foerster, *Myiocephalus* Marshall, 1897, becomes the valid name for the genus.

Introduction

Although Neave (1939) indicated homonymy between *Loxocephalus* Foerster, 1862 (Insecta: Hymenoptera: Braconidae: Euphorinae) and *Loxocephalus* Eberhard, 1862 (Protozoa: Ciliophora), the problem was not addressed by later reviewers (e.g. Corliss, 1960; Shaw, 1985), possibly because of difficulties in locating the original publications and exact publication dates. We suggest, after careful analysis of the original volumes, which, unfortunately, do not state the exact publication date, that Foerster’s *Loxocephalus* is the junior homonym. Both papers appeared in 1862, but several indicators suggest that Eberhard’s publication was available earlier than that of Foerster. Thus, *Loxocephalus* Foerster, 1862, is a junior homonym and replaced by the next available name, *Myiocephalus* Marshall, 1897.

Dating of Eberhard’s and Foerster’s papers

Two copies (one from the Coburg library, the other from the library of a secondary school in Bayreuth) of the volume containing Eberhard’s paper were inspected. Both are dated with 1862 but without any indication when they were actually available or arrived in the libraries. However, the title page of the volume has a printed date: Easter 1862. In fact, the volume was apparently printed for a ceremony celebrated on June 19, when the school was founded as a public authority (p. 27). This date is the latest mentioned in the volume. Thus, it is reasonable, in connection with “Easter 1862” mentioned on the title page, to assume that Eberhard’s paper was available in the first half of the year 1862.

Foerster’s paper is part of volume 19 (old series; volume 9 according to new series) of the “Verhandlungen des naturhistorischen Vereines der preussischen Rheinlande und Westphalens”. Two copies (one from the library of the technical university of Vienna, the other from the library of the Zoologische Staatssammlung
Munich) were inspected; both are dated in printed letters with “Bonn 1862”, but without any indication when they were actually available or arrived in the libraries. The volumes from both libraries were identical and obviously contained three types of papers, possibly printed separately, viz. scientific articles (including that by Foerster), minutes (Sitzungsberichte), and correspondence. Very likely, these parts were subsequently bound into a single volume by the libraries. However, there is no indication that any of the scientific articles, which are all undated, was available earlier than the others or the whole volume. The volume contains several reports, e.g. on pages 330-334, from the 1862 autumn meeting of the society, whose last session was held on 7 November 1862. Thus, it is reasonable to assume that the volume was not available before the end of 1862, but it cannot be ruled out that it appeared in spring 1863.

Another name for Loxocephalus Foerster

Until S.R. Shaw published his phylogenetic study of the subfamily Euphorinae, the genus Loxocephalus remained unrecognized and its species were included in Myiocephalus Marshall, 1897. When Shaw published the synonymy in 1985 (p. 328) he overlooked the homonymy of the generic name Loxocephalus Foerster, 1862. From our results it is obvious that it has to be replaced by the name used before.

Acknowledgements

We thank Prof. Dr F. Dini (University of Pisa, Italy), Prof. Dr A. Minelli (University of Padova, Italy) and Dr P.L. Scaramozzino (Museo Regionale di Scienze Naturali, Torino) for drawing our attention to the homonymy problem discussed in this paper. We also greatly acknowledge the helpful comments by Dr M. Fischer (Naturhistorisches Museum Wien, Austria) and Dr E. Haeselbarth (Zoologische Staatsammlung München, Germany). Special thanks to the libraries mentioned in the text for locating the obscure literature necessary to solve the above problem.

References

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Received: 8.1.1997
Accepted: 17.4.1997
Edited: M.J.P. van Oijen