

NOTES ON THE TAXONOMY OF TWO LITTLE KNOWN TAXA
OF *CURCULIO* LINNAEUS, 1758
(Coleoptera, Curculionidae)

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INTRODUCTION

During the compilation of a checklist of *Curculio* Linnaeus, 1758 (Coleoptera, Curculionidae), we found that among the synonyms of two names commonly used at present, *Curculio elephas* (Gyllenhal, 1835) and *Curculio villosus* Fabricius, 1781, two available taxa could be considered as senior synonyms. These names might cause changes in the nomenclature currently in use and therefore their position must be clarified. Since the types of these species have not been adequately studied following their original description, the aim of our work required a search for syntypes in order to solve these nomenclatural problems according to the articles of the ICZN (1999).

***Curculio gulosus* Fabricius, 1792**

Curculio gulosus Fabricius, 1792: 441.

Curculio gulosus was described based on specimens from Paris (France) and subsequently considered synonymous with *C. elephas* by Gyllenhal (1835) when Gyllenhal described *C. elephas* despite its earlier description. This synonymy was reported by Dalla Torre & Schenkling (1932) and more recently by Burakowski et al. (1995) and Behne (2004). In Fabricius' collection (Zoologisk Museum Statens Naturhistoriske Mu-

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seum, Copenhagen) we found one female with an original label “gulosus” and a designation label “LECTOTYPUS *Curculio gulosus* Alonso-Z. 2008”. As this designation remains unpublished, we removed this label and redesignated the specimen as: “LECTOTYPUS *Curculio gulosus* Fabricius R. Caldara, M. Košťál & M. A. Alonso-Zarazaga des. 2012”. Actually this specimen does not belong to *C. elephas* but to *C. pellitus* (Boheman, 1843). Therefore, we added the label “*Curculio pellitus* (Boheman) Michael Košťál det. 2012”.

The junior name *pellitus* can be maintained since *Curculio gulosus* meets the requirements of Article 23.9.1.1 and *Curculio pellitus* meets those of Article 23.9.1.2 of ICZN (1999) by quoting the following references: Abbazzi & Maggini 2009; Abbazzi & Osella 1992; Abbazzi et al. 1994; Alonso-Zarazaga 2002; Avgin & Colonnelli 2011; Behne 2004; Benedikt et al. 2010; Braunert 2009; Colonnelli 2003; Delbol 2008; Dieckmann 1988; Endrödi 1970; Germann 2010; Holecová & Zach 1996; Hughes & Vogler 2004; Lachowska et al. 2001; Lodos et al. 2003; Lohse 1983; Pélişson et al. 2011; Pelletier 2005; Podlussány 1998; Poiras 1998; Stejskal 2004; Tempère & Péricart 1989; Wanat & Mokrzycki 2005. Therefore we propose the acceptance of the following synonymy:

Curculio pellitus (Boheman, 1843) **nomen protectum**
= *Curculio gulosus* Fabricius, 1792 **nomen oblitum (n. syn.)**

***Curculio cerasorum* Fabricius, 1775**

Curculio cerasorum Fabricius, 1775: 142

Curculio cerasorum was described based on specimens from England. Subsequently, although previously described, it was placed among the synonyms of *Curculio villosus* Fabricius, 1781 by Gyllenhal (1835), a position followed by Dalla Torre & Schenkling (1932), Winkler (1932), and Smreczyński (1972). To our knowledge no other author has quoted this. However, many authors quoted *Curculio cerasorum* Paykull, 1792 as a valid species currently named *betulae* (Stephens, 1831) due to the primary homonymy of *cerasorum* Paykull, 1792 with *cerasorum* Fabricius, 1775.

In Fabricius' collection (Zoologisk Museum Statens Naturhistoriske Museum, Copenhagen) there are five specimens (two males and three females) designated as “LECTOTYPUS *Curculio cerasorum* Alonso-Z.

2008” (one male) and “PARALECTOTYPUS *Curculio cerasorum* Alonso-Z. 2008” (each of the other four specimens). As this designation remains unpublished, we removed these labels and redesignated these specimens as “LECTOTYPUS *Curculio cerasorum* Fabricius R. Caldara, M. Košťál & M. A. Alonso-Zarazaga des. 2012” and “PARALECTOTYPUS *Curculio cerasorum* Fabricius R. Caldara, M. Košťál & M.A. Alonso-Zarazaga des. 2012” respectively. All five specimens belong to *Curculio villosus* Fabricius, 1781 as presently considered. However, as in Fabricius’ collection there are no specimens that can be considered to belong to the type series (A. Solodovnikov and K. Puliafico pers. comm.), following the provisions of the Article 75 of the ICZN (1999) we decided to designate the neotype of *C. villosus* as currently considered. Given that Fabricius described this taxon with specimens from Germany, we designated a male labelled “GERMANIA Mainz Gustavsburg Rheinauen 12.4.74 leg. Schawaller / *Balaninus villosus* F. Köstlin det.78 / NEOTYPUS *Curculio villosus* Fabricius R. Caldara et M. Košťál & M. A. Alonso-Zarazaga des. 2012 [red printed]” as the neotype. The specimen is 5.0 mm long (rostrum excluded), perfectly preserved with dissected genitalia. It is deposited at Staatliches Museum für Naturkundes Stuttgart.

According to Article 29 of ICZN (1999), the junior name *villosus* can be maintained since *Curculio cerasorum* meets the requirements of Article 23.9.1.1 and *Curculio villosus* meets those of Article 23.9.1.2 of ICZN (1999) by quoting the following references: Abbazzi & Maggini 2009; Abbazzi & Osella 1992; Abbazzi et al. 1994; Alonso-Zarazaga 2002; Behne 2004; Benedikt et al. 2011; Bercio & Folwaczny 1979; Braunert 2009; Colonnelli 2003; Delbol 2008; Dieckmann 1988; Endrödi 1970; Germann 2010; Holecová & Zach 1996; Legalov 2010; Lodos et al. 2003; Lohse 1983; Mazur 2002; Morris 2002; Morris 2003; Pelletier 2005; Podlussány 1998; Poiras 1998; Silfverberg 1979; Telnov 2004; Tempère & Péricart 1989; Wanat & Mokrzycki 2005. Therefore, we propose the acceptance of the following synonymy:

Curculio villosus Fabricius, 1781 **nomen protectum**

Curculio cerasorum Fabricius, 1775 **nomen oblitum**

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SUMMARY

Two actions preserve taxal nomenclatural stability within Curculionidae in accordance with the Code. Following the provisions of ICZN Article 23.9.1 *Curculio pellitus* (Boheman, 1843) (formerly *Balaninus*) becomes a **nomen protectum** and *Curculio gulosus* Fabricius, 1792 a **nomen oblitum**; *Curculio villosus* Fabricius, 1781 becomes a **nomen protectum** and *Curculio cerasorum* Fabricius, 1775 a **nomen oblitum**. Having met the conditions of ICZN Article 74 and Article 75, the lectotypes of *Curculio gulosus* Fabricius, 1792 and *Curculio cerasorum* Fabricius, 1775, and the neotype of *Curculio villosus* Fabricius, 1781 are designated. The following new synonymy is proposed: *Curculio pellitus* (Boheman, 1843) = *Curculio gulosus* Fabricius 1792 **n. syn.** and the synonymy *Curculio villosus* Fabricius, 1781 = *Curculio cerasorum* Fabricius, 1775 is confirmed.

RIASSUNTO

Allo scopo di preservare la stabilità nomenclaturale di alcuni taxa di Curculionidae, in accordo con le disposizioni del Codice Internazionale di Nomenclatura Zoologica (ICZN), seguendo le indicazioni dell'articolo 23.9.1 *Curculio pellitus* (Boheman, 1843) (originariamente *Balaninus*) viene considerato **nomen protectum** e *Curculio gulosus* Fabricius, 1792 **nomen oblitum**; *Curculio villosus* Fabricius, 1781 viene considerato **nomen protectum** e *Curculio cerasorum* Fabricius, 1775 **nomen oblitum**. Essendo presenti le condizioni richieste dall'articolo 74 e dall'articolo 75 dell'ICZN, sono designati i lectotipi di *Curculio gulosus* Fabricius, 1792 e di *Curculio cerasorum* Fabricius, 1775, e il neotipus di *Curculio villosus* Fabricius 1781. Infine viene proposta la seguente nuova sinonimia: *Curculio pellitus* (Boheman, 1843) = *Curculio gulosus* Fabricius 1792 **n. syn.**, mentre viene confermata la sinonimia *Curculio villosus* Fabricius, 1781 = *Curculio cerasorum* Fabricius, 1775.

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