

## SHORT COMMUNICATION

# A replacement name for *Agasthenes* Bates, 1873 (Coleoptera: Tenebrionidae), junior homonym of *Agasthenes* Förster, 1869 (Hymenoptera: Ichneumonidae)

John Ponting

26 Sleppe Crescent, Poole, Dorset BH12 4DN, United Kingdom.

Email: wam2018@phalangium.org.uk

**KEYWORDS:** beetles, taxonomy, wasps

urn:lsid:zoobank.org:pub:0EE3E1B6-F09E-4970-8544-A6B682904994

In 1869 Förster described a subgenus of the genus *Hemiteles* (Hymenoptera, Ichneumonidae) and gave it the name *Agasthenes* Förster, 1869. Subsequently, it was raised to the rank of genus and the subgenus *Asthenoptera* Förster, 1869 and the genus *Arachnoleter* Cushman, 1924 were synonymised under it. There are currently five species in this genus (Yu 2018): *Agasthenes angustus* Townes, 1983 (from North America); *Agasthenes fulvibasis* Townes, 1983 (from North America); *Agasthenes subarcticus* (Jussila, 1965), originally in the genus *Hemiteles* Gravenhorst, 1829 (from northern Europe); *Agasthenes swezeyi* (Cushman, 1924), originally in the genus *Arachnoleter* Cushman, 1924 (from Asia and North America); and *Agasthenes varitarsus* (Gravenhorst, 1829), originally in the genus *Hemiteles* Gravenhorst, 1829 (from northern and central Europe). The type species of the genus is *Hemiteles varitarsus* Gravenhorst, 1829.

In 1873 Bates described a genus of tenebrionid beetle from Australia, naming it *Agasthenes* Bates, 1873. This genus originally contained just a single species, *Agasthenes westwoodi* Bates, 1873, which is therefore the type species of this genus by monotypy. Carter (1909, 1910, 1937) subsequently described a further six species in this genus: *Agasthenes goudiei* Carter, 1909, now synonymised under *Amphianax subcoriaceus* Bates, 1873; *Agasthenes stepheni* Carter, 1909, now *Nyctozeilus stepheni* (Carter, 1909) [nec Carter, 1914]; *Agasthenes euclensis* Carter, 1910, subsequently synonymised under *A. goudiei* Carter, 1909 and thence to *Amphianax subcoriaceus* Bates, 1873; *Agasthenes tepperi* Carter, 1937, now *Nyctozeilus tepperi* (Carter 1937); *Agasthenes frenchi* Carter, 1909; and *Agasthenes championi* Carter, 1910.

Therefore *Batessia* nomen novum (ZooBank Registration: urn:lsid:zoobank.org:act:0A974422-4FB3-4A1F-AFCE-46545D2E9B3E) is proposed here as a replacement name for *Agasthenes* Bates, 1873, preoccupied by *Agasthenes* Förster, 1869 (Hymenoptera). The name honours the person who described the original genus, with the second ‘s’ added to avoid homonymy with *Batesia* Felder & Felder, 1862 (Lepidoptera). The gender is feminine. *Batessia* contains three species: *Batessia westwoodi* (Bates, 1873) comb. nov., *Batessia frenchi* (Carter, 1909) comb. nov. and *Batessia championi* (Carter, 1910) comb. nov. The type species, in accordance with Article 67.8 of the International Code of Zoological Nomenclature, is *Agasthenes westwoodi* Bates, 1873.

## REFERENCES

- Bates, F. (1873). Descriptions of new genera and species of Tenebrionidae from Australia, New Caledonia and Norfolk Island. *Transactions of the Entomological Society of London* 1873: 347–380.
- Carter, H.J. (1909). Notes on Australian Coleoptera: with descriptions of new species of Tenebrionidae. *Proceedings of the Linnean Society of New South Wales* 34(133): 120–156.
- Carter, H.J. (1910). Revision of *Sympetes* and *Helaeus*: with descriptions of new species of Tenebrionidae [Coleoptera]. *Proceedings of the Linnean Society of New South Wales* 35(137): 77–134.
- Carter, H.J. (1937). Some new Tenebrionidae in the South Australian Museum; together with notes and descriptions of other Australian Coleoptera. *Transactions of the Royal Society of South Australia* 61: 121–144.
- Förster, A. (1869). Synopsis der Familien und Gattungen der Ichneumonen. *Verhandlungen des Naturhistorischen*

- Vereins der Preussischen Rheinlande und Westfalens* **25**(1868): 135–221.
- Felder, C. & Felder, R. (1862). Specimen faunae lepidopterologicae riparum fluminis Negro superioris in Brasilia septentrionali. *Wiener entomologische Monatsschrift* **6**: 109–126
- International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature (1999). *International Code of Zoological Nomenclature, fourth edition*. International Trust for Zoological Nomenclature: London.
- Yu D.S.K. (2018). Taxapad Ichneumonoidea (version May 2009). *In*: Species 2000 & ITIS Catalogue of Life, 2018 Annual Checklist (Roskov Y., Abucay L., Orrell T., Nicolson D., Bailly N., Kirk P.M., Bourgoin T., DeWalt R.E., Decock W., De Wever A., Nieukerken E. van, Zarucchi J., Penev L., eds.). Digital resource at [www.catalogueoflife.org/annual-checklist/2018](http://www.catalogueoflife.org/annual-checklist/2018). Species 2000: Naturalis, Leiden, the Netherlands. [accessed 26 June 2018].

---

MANUSCRIPT RECEIVED 27 JUNE 2018; ACCEPTED 2 JULY 2018.