

New synonymies in the Palearctic species of *Aphodius* Illiger (Coleoptera, Scarabaeidae)

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Frolov, A.V. New synonymies in the Palearctic species *Aphodius* Illiger (Coleoptera, Scarabaeidae). *Zoosystematica Rossica*, **9**(2), 2000: 390.

Eight new synonymies in the genus *Aphodius* are proposed.

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Recently I had an opportunity to examine the types of some *Aphodius* Illiger species, described by V. Balthasar and deposited in National Museum (Natural History) in Praha. The comparison of these specimens with extensive material from the collection of Zoological Institute (St. Petersburg) and provided by colleagues as well as examination of aedeagi yielded new synonymy.

A. (Chilothorax) melanostictus W. Schmidt, 1840 = *A. melanostictoides* Balthasar, 1961, **syn. n.**; = *A. elbursicola* Balthasar, 1961, **syn. n.** Type material examined. *A. melanostictoides*: holotype ♂ and paratype ♀ labeled "J. Klapperich, Kandahar — Kuna, 1200 m., 1.3.[19]53, S — Afghanistan". *A. elbursicola*: holotype ♂ labelled "Persia sept. Elburs mts. c. s. Tacht: Suleiman, Sardab-Tal".

A. (Chilothorax) kandaharicus Balthasar, 1961 = *A. ulcerosus* Balthasar, 1961, **syn. n.** Type material examined. *A. kandaharicus*: holotype ♂ labelled "J. Klapperich, Kandahar — Kuna, 950 m., 21.2.[19]53, S — Afghanistan"; paratype ♀ labelled "J. Klapperich, Umgb. v. Kabul, 1740 m., 20.3.[19]53". *A. ulcerosus*: holotype ♀ labelled "J. Klapperich, Kandahar — Kuna, 950 m., 21.2.[19]53, S — Afghanistan"; paratypes, 2 ♂♂ and 1 ♀, with the same data, but collected 18.I.1953, 28.I.1953, and 21.II.1953. Both the names were published in one publication and belong to one species. I propose *A. kandaharicus* as the valid name for the species, as it was based on the male type specimen.

A. (Chilothorax) distinctus (Müller, 1776) = *A. libyanus* Balthasar, 1961, **syn. n.** Type material examined. *A. libyanus*: holotype ♂ labelled "Lybien", "A. (Volinus) libyanus n.

sp. Balth. ♂ Holotypus [19]59"; paratype ♂ labelled "Lybien", "A. (Volinus) libyanus n. sp. Balth. ♀ Allotypus [19]59".

A. (Nobius) inclusus Reitter, 1892 = *A. kulikulanus* Balthasar, 1970, **syn. n.** Type material examined. *A. kulikulanus*: holotype ♀ labelled "Turkestan Lac. Kulikulan Glasunov [leg.] 1892", "A. (Mendidius) kulikulanus n. sp. Balth. [19]59 Holotypus".

A. (Melinopterus) punctatosulcatus Sturm, 1805 = *A. pseudoinclusus* Balthasar, 1963, **syn. n.** Type material examined. *A. pseudoinclusus*: holotype ♀ labelled "Slatoust Ural Herm. Frieb.", "A. (Nobius) pseudoinclusus n. sp. ♂ Balth. Holotypus [19]61".

A. (Aphodaulacus) turkestanicus Heyden, 1881 = *A. stomachosus* Balthasar, 1970, **syn. n.** Type material examined. *A. stomachosus*: holotype ♂ labelled "J. Klapperich Banda-e-Mir, 3200 m Hazaradjat, 31.8.52 Zentral-Afghanistan", "A. (Aphodaulacus) stomachosus n. sp. Holotypus [19]59 Balth.".

A. (Amidorus) obscurus (Fabricius, 1792) = *A. monticustos* Balthasar, 1946, **syn. n.** Type material examined. *A. monticustos*: 2 syntypes ♂ labelled "Nord Caucas Elborus 10000' E. Koenig [leg.]", "A. (Amidorus) montiscustos Dr. V. Balthasar det.", and "TYPUS".

Acknowledgements

I would like to thank Dr. Josef Jelinek (Praha) for the opportunity to examine V. Balthasar's types and to Dr. Oleg Kabakov (St.Petersburg) for loan of material from Afghanistan.

Received 15 December 1999