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| Linzer biol. Beitr. | 34/1 | 275-276 | 30.8.2002 |
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On the identity of *Acidota clandestina* LUZE and *A. minuta* LUZE (Coleoptera: Staphylinidae, Omaliinae)

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A b s t r a c t : Based on a revision of type material, the following synonymies are established: *Acidota cruentata* MANNERHEIM 1830 = *A. clandestina* LUZE 1905, syn. n., = *A. minuta* LUZE 1905, syn. n.

K e y w o r d s : Coleoptera, Staphylinidae, Omaliinae, *Acidota*, new synonyms.

In the Western Palaearctic region, the Holarctic genus *Acidota* STEPHENS is represented by eight valid species, including one nomen dubium (HERMAN 2001). Two species were described from the Balkans, but have not been revised or recorded again since their description. An examination of the types of these two species, both of which are deposited in the Naturhistorisches Museum Wien, revealed that they are conspecific with the widespread *A. cruentata* MANNERHEIM.

Acidota cruentata MANNERHEIM 1830

Acidota clandestina LUZE 1905: 75f., syn. n.

Acidota minuta LUZE 1905: 76f., syn. n.

T y p e s e x a m i n e d :

A. clandestina: holotype ♂: Szjem. / *cruentata* MNH. Croatia. Apfelbeck. / c. Epplsh.. Steind. d. / Type *clandestina* LUZE / Typus / ♂ / *Acidota cruentata* MANNERHEIM det. V. Assing 2001.

A. minuta: holotype ♂: Morea / *cruentata* MANNH. var. *Morea*. BRENSKE / c. Epplsh.. Steind. d. / Type *minuta* LUZE / ♂ / *Acidota cruentata* MANNERHEIM det. V. Assing 2001.

A d d i t i o n a l m a t e r i a l e x a m i n e d : approximately 1000 exs. from Germany, Italy, France, and Greece (Makedhonía, Voiotia, Pelopónnisos).

Discussion: The external characters of the holotypes, including those indicated by LUZE (1905), are within the range of intraspecific variation of the highly variable *Acidota cruentata*. Since no differences could be found in the morphology of the aedeagus either, *A. clandestina* and *A. minuta* are here placed in the synonymy of *A. cruentata*.

References

HERMAN L.H. (2001): Catalog of the Staphylinidae (Insecta: Coleoptera). 1758 to the end of the second millennium. I. Introduction, history, biographical sketches, and omaliine group. — Bull. Am. Mus. Nat. Hist. 265: 1-650.

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Digitale Literatur/Digital Literature

Zeitschrift/Journal: [Linzer biologische Beiträge](#)

Jahr/Year: 2002

Band/Volume: [0034_1](#)

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\(Coleoptera: Staphylinidae, Omaliinae\) 275-276](#)