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SOME NOMENCLATORIAL REMARKS ON *DICHOTRACHELUS STIERLINI* KNECHTI
STIERLIN (COL. CURCULIONIDAE)

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The examination of a specimen of *Dichotrachelus knechti* STIERLIN, 1875, surely belonging to the type-series gave rise to some nomenclatorial problems which require some considerations.

The specimen in question is a ♂, prepared on a Stierlin's typical triangular mounting paper; it has the Author's autographic indications: "v. *knechti*, M.te.Rosa, type, Stierlin" and is conserved at the Museum of Vienna⁺.

It is the only typical specimen of *D. knechti* STIERLIN today known: unfortunately, it does not belong to the taxon currently identified with such name, but is a *D. rudeni* STIERLIN, 1853.

Some more specifications are necessary: in fact, STIERLIN (1875) indicated as type-locality of *D. knechti* the "Col della Nuova, südlich von Aosta" (today "Colle dell'Arietta", in the Gran Paradiso mountains) and OSELLA (1967), not finding any typical specimen in Stierlin's collection, instituted a neotypus with a topotypical specimen conserved at the Museum of Verona. This last Author also considered *knechti* as a subspecies of *D. stierlini* GREDL.

In Stierlin's collection (fide OSELLA, 1.c.) four *Dichotrachelus* (not typical) are conserved under the name *knechti*: two of these are real *knechti*, from "Savoyer Alpen", while the other two are *rudeni*, from "Macugnaga" (Mt.Rosa).

Thus, it seems very likely that STIERLIN confused the characters of the two species and then that, describing *knechti*, examined both specimens from the "Col della Nuova" (indicated as type-locality) and specimens from the Mt.Rosa, these last belonging to *rudeni*.

As the typical specimen conserved at the Museum of Vienna comes from the Mt. Rosa, it does not accord with the type-locality stated by Stierlin; therefore it cannot be considered as holotypus nor as lectotypus but can only be regarded as one of the paratypes of *knechti*.

⁺ I wish to thank Dr. F. Janczyk of Vienna for the loan of the typical specimen of *D. knechti* and my friends Drs. A. Casale and G. Osella for their useful advices.

Basing on these considerations, it appears clear that, even if the only Stierlin's typical specimen today existing is a *rudeni*, *D. knechti* STIERLIN cannot be regarded as a synonym of *rudeni*; therefore, the neotypus of *knechti* instituted by OSELLA, 1967, maintains its validity.

SUMMARY:

The only typical specimen of *Dichotrachelus knechti* STIERLIN, 1875, today known (Nat.hist.Museum, Vienna), examined by the Author, belongs to *D. rudeni* STIERLIN, 1853; moreover, it was not collected in the type-locality reported for *knechti*. From an accurate study of STIERLIN's original description, the Author infers that this specimen cannot be considered as holotypus nor as lectotypus of *D. knechti*. Therefore, *D. knechti* STIERLIN, 1875 cannot be regarded as a synonym of *D. rudeni* STIERLIN, 1853.

ZUSAMMENFASSUNG:

Nomenklatorische Bemerkungen zu *Dichotrachelus stierlini knechti* STIERLIN. Das einzige heute bekannte Typen-Exemplar von *D. knechti* STIERLIN, 1875, (Nat.-hist.Museum, Wien), das vom Autor untersucht wurde, gehört zu *D. rudeni* STIERLIN, 1853; darüber hinaus stammt dieses Exemplar nicht von jenem Fundort der für *D. knechti* als locus typicus angegeben wurde. Aus dem Studium der Originalbeschreibung STIERLIN's schließt der Autor, daß dieses Exemplar weder als Holotypus noch als Lectotypus von *D. knechti* angesehen werden kann. Daher kann auch *D. knechti* STIERLIN, 1875, nicht als Synonym von *D. rudeni* STIERLIN, 1853, betrachtet werden.

RIASSUNTO:

Alcune osservazioni nomenclaturali su *Dichotrachelus stierlini knechti* STIERLIN (Col. Curc.). L'A. ha esaminato l'unico esemplare appartenente alla serie tipica di *D. knechti* STIERLIN, 1875, attualmente noto. Esso proviene dal Monte Rosa ma in realtà appartiene a *D. rudeni* STIERLIN, 1853. Poiché la località tipica indicato da STIERLIN per *knechti* è il Colle dell'Arietta (Gran Paradiso), l'A. conclude che l'esemplare in questione non può essere considerato nè come holotypus nè come lectotypus ma solo come paratypus di *D. knechti* e, pertanto, che *D. knechti* STIERLIN non può essere considerato sinonimo di *D. rudeni* STIERLIN.

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