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A new species, new synonymies, and a new combination in the genus *Chlaenius* BONELLI, 1810 (Coleoptera: Carabidae)

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Abstract

Chlaenius (Ocybatus) lijiangensis sp.n. (Coleoptera: Carabidae) from China (Yunnan) is described and illustrated. It is closely related with *C. (O.) pleuroderus* CHAUDOIR, 1883 and *C. (O.) taiwanicus* KIRSCHENHOFER, 2014. The following new synonymies and new combinations are proposed: *C. (Ocybatus) discicollis* (LA FERTÉ-SÉNÉCTÈRE, 1851) = *C. (O.) decellei* BASILEWSKY, 1968 syn.n. = *C. (O.) glaucinus* KIRSCHENHOFER, 2007 syn.n.; *Chlaenius (Chlaeniellus) flavipes* MENETRIES, 1832 = *C. (C.) laetiusculus* CHAUDOIR, 1856 syn.n. = *C. (C.) fraterculus atopus* ANDREWES, 1923 syn.n.; *C. (C.) laevioplaga frater* CHAUDOIR, 1876 comb.n. = *C. (C.) laotinus* ANDREWES, 1919 syn.n. *Chlaenius (C.) laevioplaga* CHAUDOIR, 1876 is recorded from Djibouti for the first time.

Key words: Coleoptera, Carabidae, *Chlaenius*, new species, synonymy, taxonomy, China.

Introduction

Through the courtesy of Rostislav Ross Sehnal (Czechia) we received a sample of Asian Chlaeniini for identification, which included a single specimen of the subgenus *Ocybatus* LA FERTÉ-SÉNÉCTÈRE, 1851, which did not match any of the described species of the subgenus and is therefore described in the present paper. This subgenus contains 41 recognized species (see www.carabidae.org, and KIRSCHENHOFER 2008, 2009, 2011, 2014), which are distributed in Africa and Asia.

On the basis of the study of extensive material from museums and private collections several new synonymies and a new combination are also proposed herein.

Material and methods

Material from the following collections has been examined:

BMNH	Natural History Museum (London, United Kingdom)
CAA	Collection A. Anichtchenko (Latvia)
CDW	Collection D. Wrase (Germany)
CMH	Collection M. Häckel (Prague, Czechia)
CRS	Collection R. Sehnal (Unhošť, Czechia)
DUBC	Daugavpils University Beetles collection (Latvia)
HNHM	Hungarian Natural History Museum (Budapest, Hungary)
MNHN	Muséum national d'histoire naturelle (Paris, France)
MRAC	Royal Museum for Central Africa (Tervuren, Belgium)
NBCL	Naturalis Biodiversity Center (Leiden, Netherlands)
NMNHs	National Museum of Natural History (Sofia, Bulgaria)
NMW	Naturhistorisches Museum Wien (Austria)

Measurements: body length, from anterior margin of clypeus to apex of elytra along suture; length of pronotum, along midline; width of pronotum, at widest point; length of elytra, from its base to apex along suture; width of elytra, at widest point.

Numerous habitus images of *Chlaenius* species, including type specimens, are available at <http://www.carabidae.org>.

Description of the new species

Chlaenius (Ocybatus) lijiangensis sp.n. (Figs. 1, 4, 5)

TYPE MATERIAL: **Holotype** ♂ (CRS): "SW China, Yunnan, Lijiang City, Elephant hill, 23/06/2014, lgt. R.K.Sehnal, T. Sýkora".

DIFFERENTIAL DIAGNOSIS: The new species shares a very sparsely punctured pronotum with *C. pleuroderus* CHAUDOIR, 1883 (Fig. 2) and *C. taiwanicus* KIRSCHENHOFER, 2014 (Fig. 3). It differs from *C. pleuroderus* in the black tibiae and tarsi, and the metallic sides of the pronotum. The latter has unicoloured reddish yellow legs, except for the dark knees, and the sides of the pronotum are always reddish yellow. From *C. taiwanicus* the new species is differentiated by its black antennae, except scape, and by the black tibiae and tarsi. *Chlaenius taiwanicus* has more oval elytra, a longer pronotum, antennae and legs unicoloured reddish yellow, except slightly darkened knees.

DESCRIPTION: Habitus as in Fig. 1. Length: 13.0 mm, width: 4.8 mm. Pronotum 1.66 times as wide as head, 1.21 as broad as long, elytra 1.36 times as wide as pronotum. Head and pronotum bluish-green, shiny, elytra densely pubescent, black, matt; each elytron with rounded, reddish yellow preapical spot on intervals 4–8. Mandibles blackish brown, darkened at the base; palpomeres black with brownish apices; scape brown with blackish apex, remaining antennomeres black. Legs reddish brown, tibiae, tarsi and knees blackened. Ventral side glossy black, bluish iridescent.

Head: Elongate, slightly convex, eyes bulging, temples short; finely and moderately densely punctate throughout, punctures separated by 2–3 diameters. Last labial palpomere strongly securiform. Mandible slightly curved, strongly bent from apical third to apex. Antennae slender, reaching base of elytra near middle of 8th antennomere.

Pronotum: Elongate, 1.21 times broader than long; disc sparsely punctate along median line. Punctuation at base more dense and irregular. Sides of pronotum regularly rounded, anterior angles slightly prominent, broadly rounded. Lateral explanate margin narrow, slightly widened towards base. Posterior angles obtuse and rounded. Basal impressions deep, pit-shaped. Midline not reaching base.

Elytra: Elongately oval, basal edge complete. Striae deep, finely punctured. Intervals slightly convex, densely punctured, punctures slightly wrinkled.

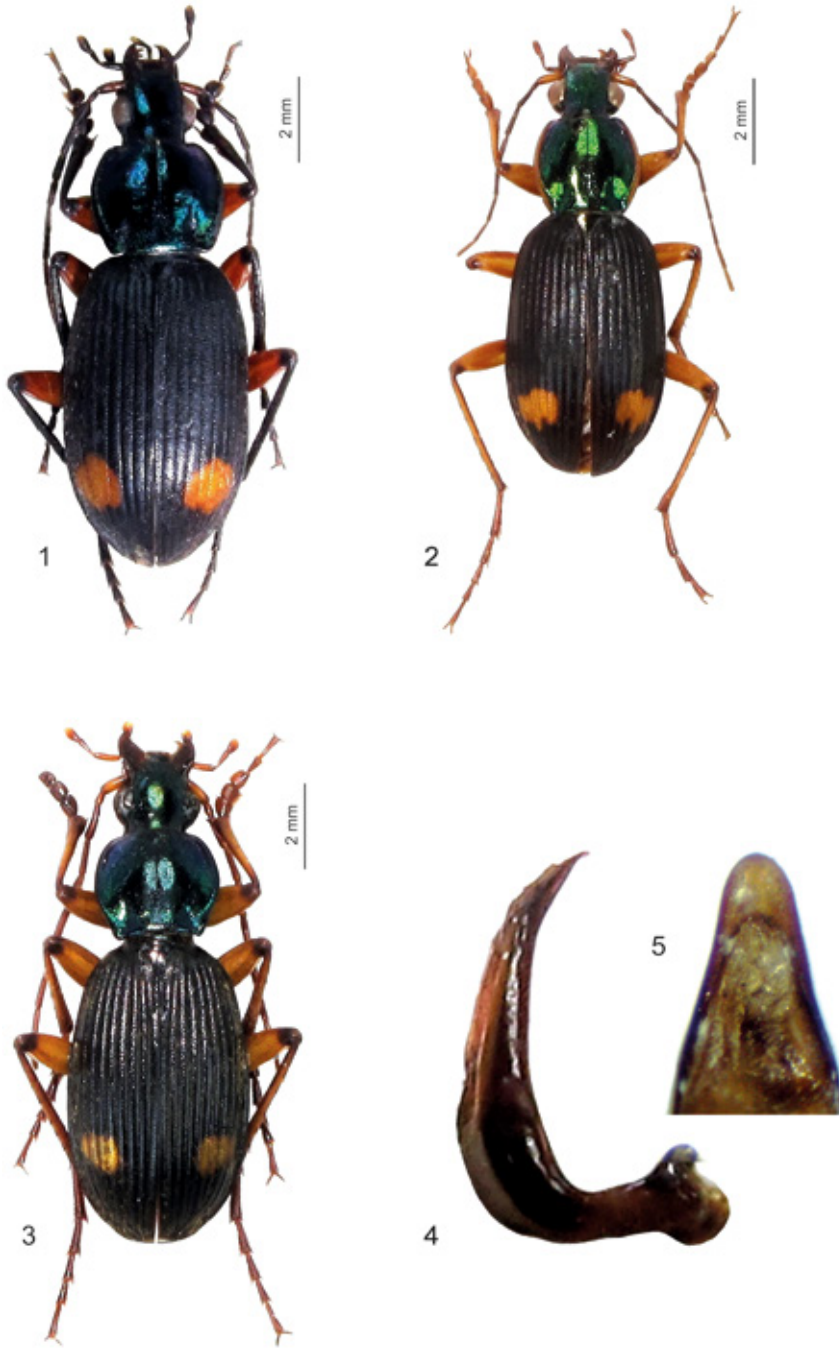
Prosternal process rounded, margined, metepisterna finely punctured. Abdominal sterna shiny, smooth, anal sternite slightly sinuate on each side, with a foveiform pore (♂).

First three tarsomeres of fore tarsi of male strongly broadened.

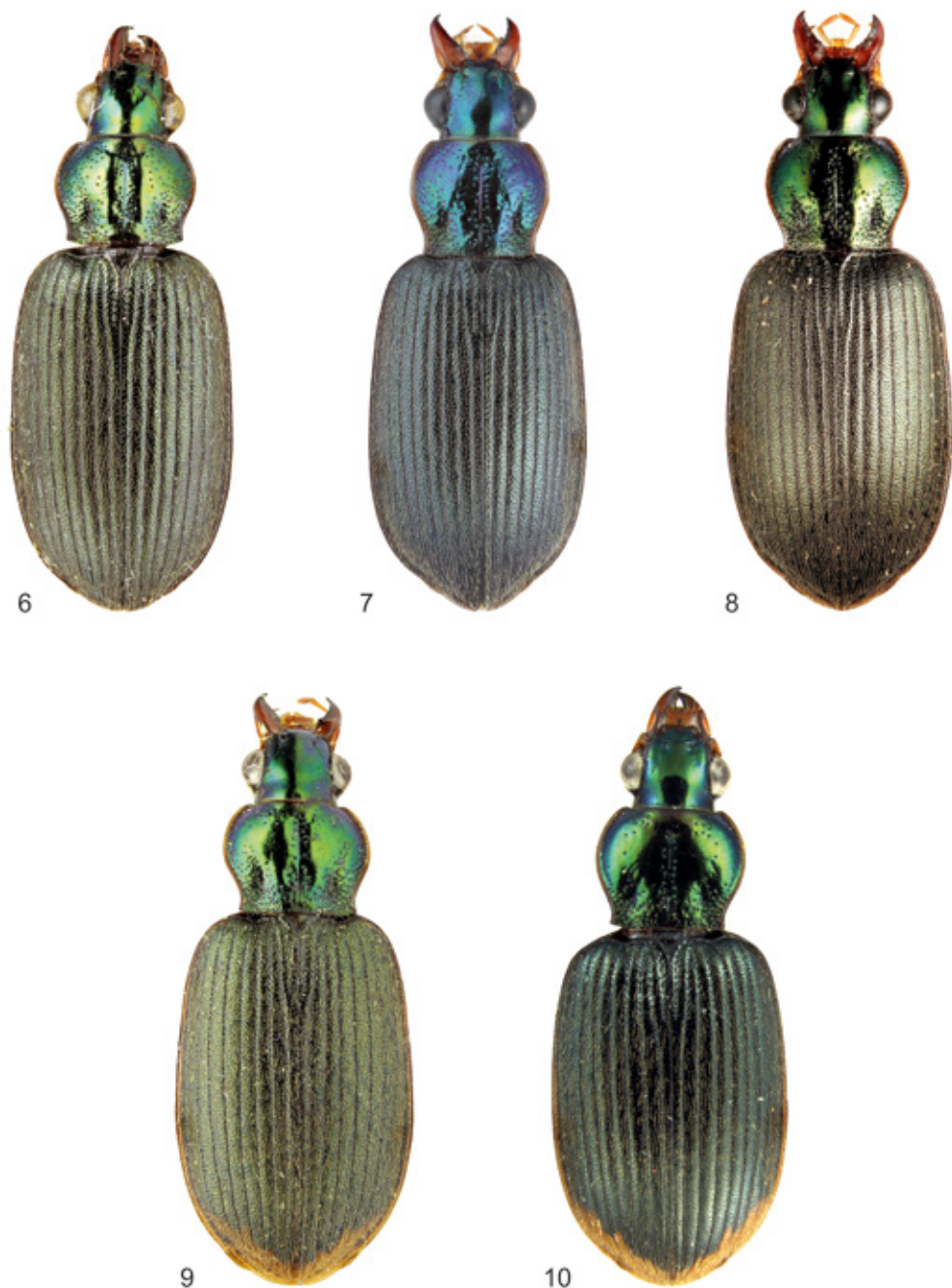
Aedeagus (Figs. 4–5): In lateral view rather slender and elongate, median shaft slightly arcuate, apical third of lobe downturned, apex short and widely rounded. In dorsal view obliquely narrowed to apex, right side slightly bulged. Length 2.9 mm.

DISTRIBUTION: Southwestern China, Yunnan, Lijiang City, Elephant hill. So far known only from the type locality.

ETYMOLOGY: The name refers to Lijiang, where the holotype was collected.



Figs. 1–5: 1–3) Habitus of 1) *Chlaenius (Ocybatus) lijiangensis*, holotype, 2) *C. (O.) pleuroderus*, Bangladesh: Chittagong (CMH), 3) *C. (O.) taiwanicus*, China: Zhejiang (CMH), 4–5) aedeagus of *C. (O.) lijiangensis*, 4) lateral view, 5) apex.



Figs. 6–10: Colour forms of *Chlaenius* (*Chlaeniellus*) *flavipes*: 6) Bulgaria, female (typical form), 7) Azerbaijan, male (typical form), 8) India, male (= *C. laetiussculus*), 9) India, female (= *C. fraterculus atopus*), 10) Nepal, male (= *C. fraterculus atopus*).

New nomenclatural and taxonomic acts

Chlaenius (Ocybatus) discicollis (LA FERTÉ-SÉNECTÈRE, 1851)

= *Chlaenius (Ocybatus) decellei* BASILEWSKY 1968: 80 **syn.n.**

= *Chlaenius (Ocybatus) glaucinus* KIRSCHENHOFER 2007: 245 **syn.n.**

MATERIAL EXAMINED: 1 ♂: Oman, Dhofar, Jabal al Qamar, 10 km W Dhakut, 16°42'10"N 53°11'41"E 20.IX.2011, leg. R. Ambrus (CAA); 1 ♂: Nigeria, Samaru, 6.–23.VIII.1970, leg. P.H. Ward, Mercury vapour light trap (BMNH); 1 ♂: Nigeria, Plateau State, Pandam, Wildlife park, I.X.1978, leg. P. Beron (NMNHS); 1 ♂: Ghana, Upper East Prov., Navrongo env., VI.2006, leg. J. Rolčík (CMH); 1 ♀ (holotype of *Chlaenius glaucinus*): Ghana, North Reg., Nyakpala, 15 km W Tamale, 11.–20.V.1970, leg. S. Endrödy, at light (HNHM); 1 ex. (holotype of *Chlaenius decellei*): Ivory Coast (MRAC).

Chlaenius glaucinus KIRSCHENHOFER, 2007 was described after a single female from Ghana. According to the original description *C. glaucinus* differs from *C. decellei* in denser punctures of head and pronotum, and in the slightly different shape of the apical elytral spot. Examination of the holotypes of *C. glaucinus* and *C. decellei* revealed that they are conspecific with *C. discicollis*. No characters outside the range of intraspecific variation were found. Numerous habitus images of *C. discicollis* from different regions are available at <http://www.carabidae.org>.

DISTRIBUTION: Oman, Kenya, Tanzania, Nigeria, Ghana, Ivory Coast, and Senegal.

Chlaenius (Chlaeniellus) flavipes MENETRIES, 1832

= *Chlaenius exutus* FRIVALDSZKY VON FRIVALD 1845: 178.

= *Chlaenius laetiusculus* CHAUDOIR 1856: 248 **syn.n.**

= *Chlaenius confinis* MOTSCHULSKY 1865: 338.

= *Chlaenius kuluensis* BATES 1891: 9.

= *Chlaenius fraterculus atupus* ANDREWES 1923: 344 **syn.n.**

= *Chlaenius rapylli* MORVAN 1975: 49.

= *Chlaenius flaviventris* MANDL 1989: 81.

MATERIAL EXAMINED: 3 ♂♂, 1 ♀: Bulgaria, Pirin, Sandanski, 30.VII.–9.VIII.2012, leg. N. Savenkov (DUBC); 4 ♂♂, 7 ♀♀: Iran, East Azarbaijan, 10 km N Kaleybar, 17.–18.V.2007, leg. A. Anichtchenko (CAA, DUBC); 12 ♂♂, 10 ♀♀: India, Uttarakhand, left side of Kosi river, 5 km N Ramnagar, 29°25'56"N 79°08'21"E, 7.–11.VI.2011, leg. A. Anichtchenko (CAA, DUBC); 2 ♀♀ (*Chlaeniellus fraterculus atupus* det. Anichtchenko): same locality and collector, 7.–11.VI.2011 (CAA); 10 ♂♂, 8 ♀♀: same locality and collector, 23.–26.IV.2012 (CAA, DUBC); 14 ♂♂, 10 ♀♀: India, Uttarakhand, Rajaji Nat. Park, 4 km NE Chila, 30°0'14"N 78°14'38"E, 8.IV.2012, leg. A. Anichtchenko (DUBC); 4 ♀♀: India, Uttarakhand, Uttarkashi distr., 1370 m, 14 km E Uttarkashi, 30°45'16"N 78°34'33"E, 17.–18.IV.2012, leg. A. Anichtchenko (DUBC); 1 ♂: Nepal, Kavre distr. (NMW); 1 ♂: Nepal, Godawari, VI.1996 (NMW); 1 ♀: Nepal, Kathmandu, 1900 m, Nagarjun Ban Reserve, 20.II.1999, leg. F. Abrescia (NMW).

According to the original description, *Chlaenius laetiusculus*, described from northern India, resembles *C. flavipes*. The author stated that the new species differs in the following characters: body size larger; elytra more parallel; posterior pronotal angles acute and very prominent; lateral rim narrow; antennae and legs paler. Later, the same differential characters were repeated by MANDL (1983). Both species are widely distributed and quite variable, and many related taxa were described. Some of them were already synonymised (KIRSCHENHOFER 2000), but the taxonomic status of some others is still unclear. We examined long series and found no significant differences concerning the external morphology of *C. flavipes* (Figs. 6–7) and *C. laetiusculus* (Fig. 8). The aedeagi were also found to be identical.

Chlaenius fraterculus atupus was described after specimens from Gopaldhara (India: Darjeeling) with narrowly yellow elytral apices. In populations of *C. flavipes* from India and Nepal such specimens with more or less yellow elytral apices (Figs. 9–10) can be often found together with the typical form (Fig. 8).

***Chlaenius (Chlaeniellus) laeviolaga* CHAUDOIR, 1876**

ssp. *Chlaenius laeviolaga laeviolaga* CHAUDOIR 1876: 261.

ssp. *Chlaenius laeviolaga frater* CHAUDOIR 1876: 261 **comb.n.**

= *Chlaenius fraterculus lindemanna* MANDL 1983: 434. Synonymized with *C. frater* by KIRSCHENHOFER (2000).

= *Chlaenius laotinus* ANDREWES 1919: 14 **syn.n.**

ssp. *Chlaenius laeviolaga saudiarabicus* MANDL 1980: 99.

ssp. *Chlaenius laeviolaga gambronicus* AZADBAKHSH & KIRSCHENHOFER 2016: 144.

MATERIAL EXAMINED: 1 ♂ (syntype of *Chlaenius laotinus*): Laos, Luang Prabang (BMNH); 1 ♂, 1 ♀: Laos, Vientiane province, Vang Vieng, Pakpo, sandy and stony bank of Nam Song river, 18°59'27"N 102°26'20"E, 27.–28.II.2014, leg. R. Cibulskis (DUBC); 1 ♂ (holotype of *Chlaenius fraterculus lindemanna*): Pakistan, 20 km E Rawalpindi, 15.XII.1955, leg. C. Lindemann (NMW); 1 ♂ (type specimen of *Chlaenius frater*): India, Malabar (MNHN); 1 ♂, 1 ♀: Iran, Hormozgan province, Fin, 27°36'15"N 56°0'32"E, 290 m, 12.II.2015, leg. S. Azadbakhsh (CAA, DUBC); 1 ♂: United Arab Emirates, Fujairah, Wadi Madaq, 25.18°N 56.07°E, white & yellow water trap, 2.–16.II.2006, leg. A. v. Harten (NBCL); 2 exs.: Djibouti, Goda Mountains, margin of small stream, ca. 0.5 km SW Campement Touristique Bankualé, ca. 25 km WNW Tajourah, 680 m, 11°49'15"N 42°40'9"E, 29.I.2016, leg. M.A. Jäch (NMW); 1 ♂: Yemen, Socotra, Wadi di-Negehen, 12°36'55"N 54°03'48"E, 25.X.2010, leg. R. Felix (NBCL).

Till now three weakly differentiated subspecies have been described for *Chlaenius laeviolaga*. The nominate subspecies is known from Egypt, Sudan, Djibouti (first record!), Yemen (incl. Socotra Island), United Arab Emirates and Oman. *Chlaenius laeviolaga saudiarabicus* is known only from Saudi Arabia. A recently described subspecies from southern Iran, *C. laeviolaga gambronicus*, encouraged us to examine related species occurring further east. The study of a type specimen of *C. frater* (Malabar, India), a syntype of *C. laotinus* (described from Laos), and additional material allows us to conclude that all these taxa are conspecific. We regard the specimens from Pakistan, India and Laos as a single subspecies: *C. laeviolaga frater* **comb.n.** It should be pointed out, that the four recognized subspecies are exceedingly similar in overall appearance, and they grade into each other. There is little doubt that they are geographic races of a single polytypic species.

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Buchbesprechung

BOUSQUET, Y. 2016: Litteratura Coleopterologica (1758–1900): a guide to selected books related to the taxonomy of Coleoptera with publication dates and notes. – ZooKeys 583: 1–776. doi: 10.3897/zookeys.583.7084

Dieses Werk basiert zwar zu weiten Teilen auf den Daten von ähnlichen Publikationen (Horn & Schenckling 1928, Derksen & Scheiding 1963, etc.), aber keiner dieser Literatur-Kataloge umfasste bisher den gesamten Zeitraum von 1758 bis 1900.

Fast 1000 Arbeiten von 622 Primär-Autoren werden aufgelistet. Zu (fast) jedem Autor finden sich kurze biographische Angaben.

Gewisse “komplizierte” Werke, wie z. B. Bertolini (1899–1904: *Catalogo dei coleotteri d’Italia*) sucht man allerdings vergeblich.

Bei einigen Werken gibt es unklare Angaben zum Erscheinungsjahr, wie z. B. bei Latreille, P.A., 1807: *Genera crustaceorum et insectorum secundum ordinem naturalem in familias disposita, iconibus exemplisque plurimis explicata*. Vol. 2. – Parisiis et Argentorati: A. Koenig, 280 pp. Dieses Werk wurde mehr als 200 Jahre lang stets mit 1807 zitiert. Laut Bousquet (2016) und Bouchard et al. (2011: *Family-group names in Coleoptera (Insecta)*. ZooKeys 88: 1–972) muss dieses Buch mit 1806 zitiert werden. Diese Autoren beziehen sich auf das “*Journal général de la littérature de France*” [1806] 9 (11), p. 321, wo der zweite Band der “*Genera crustaceorum et insectorum*” angekündigt (besprochen) wird. Es existieren aber keine Hinweise, dass dieser Band tatsächlich bereits 1806 gedruckt wurde. Solche Fälle müssen unbedingt von der Nomenklaturkommission geklärt werden. Die Bestimmungen des ICZN (Art. 2.1) besagen: “The date of publication specified in a work is to be adopted as correct in the absence of evidence to the contrary”. Da kein solcher Beweis existiert, sollte man es meines Erachtens in diesem Falle unbedingt bei 1807 belassen. Man bedenke die hohe Anzahl der Arten bei denen die Jahreszahl nun aufgrund eines Verdachts geändert werden müsste.

M.A. JÄCH

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