Linzer biol. Beitr.	35/1	515-518	30.6.2003

On the identity of *Trichophya huttoni* WOLLASTON (Coleoptera: Staphylinidae, Trichophyinae)

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A b s t r a c t : *Trichophya huttoni* WOLLASTON 1854, sp. propr., is revalidated, illustrated, and distinguished from *Trichophya pilicornis*. The species is apparently endemic to Madeira. The following synonymy is formally proposed: *T. pilicornis* (GYLLENHAL 1810) = *T. foina* GISTEL 1857, syn. n.

K e y w o r d s : Coleoptera, Staphylinidae, Trichophyinae, *Trichophya,* Palaearctic region, Madeira, endemism, revalidation, new synonymy.

Introduction

The genus *Trichophya* MANNERHEIM 1830 currently includes 15 species from the Palaearctic, the Nearctic, and the Oriental regions, not counting a nomen dubium described by GISTEL (1857) (HERMAN 2001, SHIBATA 2001). For almost one and a half centuries, *T. pilicornis* (GYLLENHAL 1810) has been regarded as the only representative of the genus in the Western Palaearctic region. *Trichophya huttoni* has undisputedly been treated as a junior synonym (the only one) of *T. pilicornis* ever since WOLLASTON (1865) proposed this synonymy. He did so stating that he had seen Canarian material intermediate in size between continental *T. pilicornis* and the holotype of *T. huttoni*, leading him to regard the latter as a "rather large geographical state of the *pilicornis*". According to the original description, which is based on a single specimen, *T. huttoni* is distinguished from *T. pilicornis* by its greater size and by its differently coloured pubescence (WOLLASTON 1854).

In the course of compiling data for a catalogue of Madeiran Staphylinidae (ASSING & SCHÜLKE in prep.), three recently collected specimens of *Trichophya* from Madeira were examined. A subsequent comparison with material of *T. pilicornis* from the Canary Islands (Gran Canaria, Tenerife, La Palma, La Gomera, El Hierro), Germany, Italy, France (Corsica), Spain, Portugal, and Cyprus revealed that *T. huttoni* doubtlessly represents a distinct species. Approximately 90 specimens of *T. pilicornis* from the Canary Islands were examined. They are of similar size as continental *T. pilicornis*, so that WOLLASTON's (1865) observation that Canarian specimens are larger than material from the continental Europe cannot be confirmed.

In his world catalogue of Staphylinidae HERMAN (2001) lists *Trichophya foina* GISTEL 1857 as a nomen dubium; it was described from Germany, but has been ignored by subsequent authors. Since *Trichophya* is a very distinctive, easily recognized genus and *T.*

pilicornis is the only species present in continental Europe, there is little doubt that *T. foina* is conspecific with *T. pilicornis*, so that the following synonymy is here formally proposed: *Trichophya pilicornis* (GYLLENHAL 1810) = *T. foina* GISTEL 1857, syn. n.

***Trichophya huttoni* WOLLASTON 1854, sp. propr. (Figs. 1-4)**

Trichophya huttoni WOLLASTON 1854: 572.

Material examined: 3 exs., Madeira, S Seixal, 400-500m, 16.-30.I.1999, leg. Lebenbauer (author's collection).

Remarks: *Trichophya huttoni* (Fig. 1) is readily separated from *T. pilicornis* by greater body size (3.5-4.0 mm in normal preparation; width at elytra: ca. 1.0 mm; width of pronotum: ca. 0.8 mm; *T. pilicornis*: 3.0-3.5 mm, ca. 0.8 mm, and 0.7 mm, respectively). In addition, it is separated by more pronounced microsculpture and consequently less shine on the whole forebody, a more transverse pronotum with less abrupt impressions in the postero-lateral areas, a more strongly microsculptured abdomen, a truncate posterior margin of the male tergite VIII (Fig. 2) (in *T. pilicornis* weakly to moderately convex), and a completely different morphology of the aedeagus; the ventral process of the median lobe is longer, more slender, and more strongly curved (lateral view), the parameres are longer and more slender, and the sclerotized internal structures are differently shaped (Figs. 3-4). For illustrations of the aedeagus of *T. pilicornis* see Figs. 5-6.

Distribution: *Trichophya huttoni* is apparently endemic to Madeira and of utmost rarity. The specimens listed above represent the first record since the discovery of the holotype.

Acknowledgements

I am grateful to Thomas Lebenbauer, Pitten, and Rudi Schuh, Wiener Neustadt, for the generous gift of the material of *Trichophya huttoni*.

Zusammenfassung

Trichophya huttoni WOLLASTON 1854, sp. propr., wird revalidisiert und von *Trichophya pilicornis* unterschieden; Differentialmerkmale werden abgebildet. Die Art ist offenbar auf Madeira endemisch. Folgende Synonymisierung wird vorgenommen: *T. pilicornis* (GYLLENHAL 1810) = *T. foina* GISTEL 1857, syn. n.

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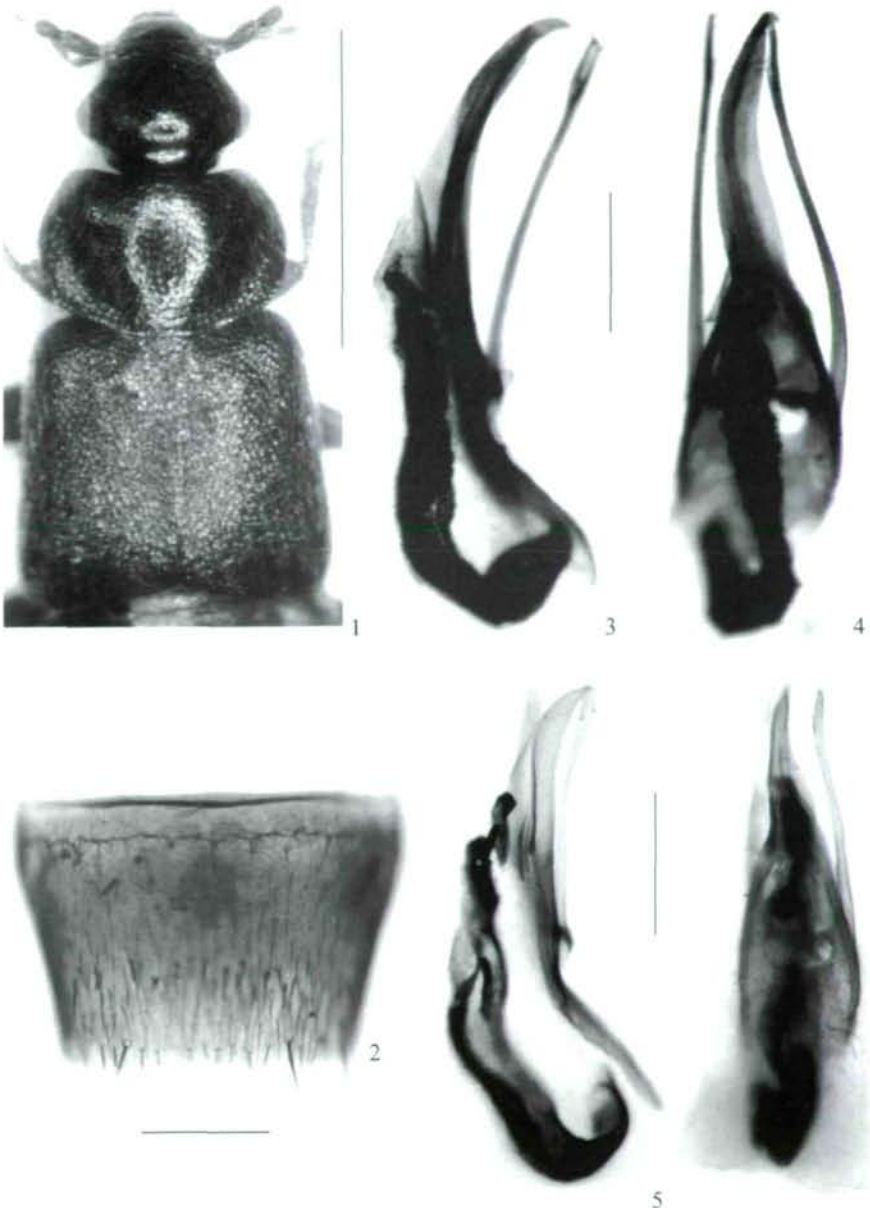

Figs. 1-6: *Trichophya huttoni* WOLLASTON (1-4) and *T. pilicornis* (GYLLENHAL) (5-6): **1** – forebody; **2** – ♂ tergite VIII; **3-6** – aedeagus in lateral and in ventral view. Scales: 1: 1.0 mm; 2-6: 0.2 mm.