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Taxonomic Notes on Three Little Known Species of *Tychius* GERM. from Siberia (USSR)

(Coleoptera, Curculionidae)

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Abstract. *Tychius krausei* nom. n. is proposed as a new name for *T. semisquamosus* FAUST, 1893 (not LeCONTE, 1876) because of primary homonymy. *Tychius facetus* FAUST, 1891 is newly placed in synonymy under *T. tectus* LeCONTE, 1876, whereas *Tychius kiesewetteri* TOURNIER, 1873 is newly placed in synonymy under *T. trivialis* BOHEMAN, 1843.

In the course of a revision of the species of genus *Tychius*, I have been interested in some little known taxa described from specimens from Siberia. Three of them present taxonomic problems which will be discussed in this paper.

I wish to express my thanks for help in this study by W. E. CLARK, Auburn University, Auburn, USA; L. DIECKMANN, Institut für Pflanzenschutzforschung Kleinmachnow, Eberswalde, DDR; R. KRAUSE, Staatliches Museum für Tierkunde, Dresden, DDR; H. PERRIN, Museum National d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris, France; P. I. PERSSON, Naturhistoriska Riksmuseet, Stockholm, Sweden.

Tychius semisquamosus FAUST, 1893
(Deut. Ent. Zeit., p. 204)

This taxon was described from specimens from Irkutsk (southern Siberia). I examined 1 ♂ (lectotype, here designated) and 2 ♀♀ (one of them without the head) all labelled "Irkutsk, Iacowlew *semisquamosus* Fst. Type" (coll. FAUST, Dresden). These specimens were previously examined by FRANZ (1942) and it is not necessary to question his taxonomic interpretation. However, the name *semisquamosus* was previously proposed by LeCONTE (Proc. Amer. Philos. Soc., 1876, 15, p. 217) for a *Tychius* from North America (CLARK, 1971). Therefore, due to this primary homonymy, I propose for *T. semisquamosus* FAUST the new name ***krausei* nom. n.**

Tychius facetus FAUST, 1891
(Hor. Soc. Ent. Ross., 25, p. 407)

FAUST described *Tychius facetus* from specimens from Krasnojarsk (southern Siberia) and Samara (today Kujbyshev, RSFSR). I examined 6 of them, 5 in the FAUST collection (Dresden) labelled "Krasnojarsk, J. Sahlbg., *facetus* Faust Type" (1 ♂, here designated as lectotype, and 1 ♀ carried on the same pin); "♂, Krasnojarsk, Strehlof *facetus* Faust / Type" and "♂, Samara, Faust / *facetus* Faust / Type" (2 ♂♂ carried on the same pin) and 1 ♂ in the PIC collection (Paris) labelled "*Tychius facetus* m. Krasnojarsk / *T. facetus* Faust Type"

This series consists of specimens that show a rather marked variability. The unique ♀ differs from the lectotype in having the prothorax with slightly curved (and not subparallel) sides in basal $\frac{3}{4}$; moreover, the rostrum is about the same length and shape as in the ♂ and is clearly shorter than in other ♀♀ of the species that I have examined. The other 2 ♂♂ of Krasnojarsk have elytra of lesser width and with more curved sides; moreover, large subelliptical scales on the elytra cover the 1st interspace only, and are lacking

on the other interspaces. One of the 2 ♂♂ from Samara is similar to these Krasnojarsk specimens, while the second is like the lectotype in the shape of the elytra but has a shorter prothorax. After the examination of external morphological characters and of genitalia, I consider *T. facetus* synonymous (**syn. n.**) with *T. tectus* LeCONTE (Proc. Amer. Philos. Soc., 1876, 15, p. 217), a species widely distributed in the western part of North America, from Alaska to Texas. The synonymy was confirmed by W. E. CLARK (in litt., 1982).

In the Old World, *T. tectus* is widely distributed in the eastern Palaearctic from southern Siberia to Mongolia, to eastern China; the Samara locality of 2 paralectotypes ♂♂ is eccentric as regards to others and needs confirmation. Therefore, *T. tectus* turns out to be the first recorded species of *Tychius* distributed in the Old World as well as in the New World (except for *T. picrostris* (FABRICIUS) and *T. stephensi* SCHÖNHERR introduced in historic times into North America). This possibility has been already considered by CLARK (1977) for *T. tectus*, which in North America has as hosts several species of *Astragalus* and *Oxytropis* including members of primarily Eurasian groups. CLARK advanced the hypothesis that this species entered North America via Beringia along with some species of *Astragalus* or *Oxytropis* of the Old World. Unfortunately, there are no records of host plants of *T. tectus* in the Palaearctic region.

I have observed substantial variability within Old World *T. tectus*, also among specimens of the same population. It is probable that the taxon includes several more or less distinct forms in the Old World as well as in North America, as reported by CLARK (1977). However, further clarification of the taxonomic status of these cannot be assessed without more detailed geographical and biological informations.

Finally, it should be noted that other species of *Tychius* widely distributed in North America seem to be related to Palaearctic species. This might be true of the North American *T. lineellus* LeCONTE and *T. sordidus* LeCONTE to *T. rufirostris* SCHÖNHERR and *T. retusus* FAUST of Turkestan and of the North American *T. semisquamosus* LeCONTE and *T. prolixus* CASEY to *T. longulus* DESBROCHERS of eastern Palaearctic.

Tychius trivialis BOHEMAN, 1843

(in SCHÖNHERR, Gen. Spec. Curc., 7 (2), p. 306)

BOHEMAN described *T. trivialis* from specimens from western Siberia and placed the taxon in a section (Manipulus I — Femora dentata) which mostly constituted of species afterwards transferred to *Pachytychius*.

The taxon is listed under *Tychius* in Cat. JUNK and Cat. WINKLER, but is not recorded by FRANZ (1949) in his review of the type-specimens of *Tychius* species conserved in the Museum of Stockholm.

I have examined 1 syntype ♀ of *trivialis* (coll. SCHÖNHERR, Museum of Stockholm) labelled "Sibiria occid., Gebler, Typus" (lectotype, here designated). It is a specimen of the taxon usually called *kiesenwetteri* TOURNIER, 1873, and differs from the lectotype of this last species in having the dorsal vestiture slightly thicker, the light brown scales with marked metallic reflection, the sides of prothorax more parallel in the basal 1/2, and the rostrum slightly shorter. All of these differences fall within the variability of the taxon. Obviously, the taxa previously synonymized with *kiesenwetteri* by FRANZ (*irkutensis* FAUST and *ciceris* PENECKE) (1942) and by me (*leonhardi* PENECKE) (1977) must be transferred to *trivialis* (**syn. n.**). I can confirm FRANZ's synonymies, since I have examined 8 syntypes of *irkutensis*, 2 ♂♂ and 3 ♀♀ (all labeled "Irkutsk, Jakowlew" — 1 ♂ of them here designated as lectotype) in Dresden (FAUST collection), 1 ♂ in Eberswalde, 1 ♂ and 1 ♀ in Paris (coll. PIC ex REITTER) and 10 syntypes of *ciceris*, 2 ♂♂ in Dresden (both labelled "Hungaria, Kalocsa / *Tychius ciceris* Pen. ♂, Penecke det." — one of them here designated as lectotype) and 6 ♂♂ and 2 ♀♀ in Eberswalde.

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