

## On two names found in the literature pertaining to *Trichoceble* THOMSON, 1859 (Coleoptera: Rhadalidae)

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### Abstract

The specimen originally reported under the name “*Trichoceble fulvohirta* BRIS. a. *semirufescens* PIC” by Jan Roubal in 1927 has been re-examined and identified as a specimen of *T. curta* (BAUDI, 1874). Furthermore, some specimens reported by Helga Döberl in 1982 as the types of “*Trichoceble paganettii* PIC” (unpublished!) have been identified as *Aplocnemus* (s.str.) *pulverulentus* (KÜSTER, 1850). In addition, the first country record of *T. curta* for Bosnia and Herzegovina is reported, together with a note on the chromatic variability of this species.

**Key words:** Coleoptera, Dasytidae s.l., Melyridae s.l., Rhadalidae, *Aplocnemus*, *Trichoceble*, faunistics, Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro.

### Zusammenfassung

Das von Jan Roubal im Jahr 1927 als „*Trichoceble fulvohirta* BRIS. a. *semirufescens* PIC“ mitgeteilte Exemplar wurde untersucht und als zu *T. curta* (BAUDI, 1874) gehörig identifiziert. Des Weiteren werden einige von Helga Döberl im Jahr 1982 als Typen der „*Trichoceble paganettii* PIC“ (unpubliziert!) mitgeteilten Exemplare als *Aplocnemus* (s.str.) *pulverulentus* (KÜSTER, 1850) bestimmt. Zusätzlich wird – zusammen mit einer Mitteilung zur farblichen Variabilität – der erste Ländernachweis von *T. curta* für Bosnien und Herzegovina mitgeteilt.

### Introduction

Topic of the present communication are two names found in the literature pertaining to the genus *Trichoceble* THOMSON, 1859 (= *Julistus* KIESENWETTER, 1859). These are “*Trichoceble fulvohirta* BRIS. a. *semirufescens* PIC” as used by ROUBAL (1927b), and “*Trichoceble paganettii* PIC” as reported by DÖBERL (1982). Both names turned out to be misnomers because of misidentified specimens. However, the first one originated from the wrong usage of a previously introduced name based on misidentification, while the latter one originated from the intention to introduce a new name based on misidentification.

A heterochresonym is a taxon name that was applied wrongly because of specimen misidentification (DUBOIS 2000, 2012). A heterochresonym could, if unrecognized, cause misinformation. In what follows, the present author tries to avert a wrong record of occurrence, if the data in question would be incorporated in a database based on the name usages alone. As a result, a heterochresonym pertaining to *T. curta* (BAUDI, 1874) is reported.

A chironym (= manuscript name that is invalid until publication) is based on chirotypes, which are specimens designated in a manuscript as the type material (MAGGENTI et al.

2008). Sometimes a manuscript is not published, and the type material remains undescribed and does not become a valid name-bearer. Unpublished types often reappear listed in collection catalogues or species bibliographies under an unpublished name based upon label data (nomen in schedula). In what follows, the present author revises the specimens on which an unpublished name (nomen ineditus) was based. As a result, a misnomer, which was first-used in a type catalogue, is reported under a short note on *Aplocnemus pulverulentus* (KÜSTER, 1850).

In addition, the existence of a very dark coloured specimen of *T. curta*, which has been thought to represent a new taxon, and the first country record of this species for Bosnia and Herzegovina are reported.

### Material and methods

33 specimens were examined for this study (other specimens of *T. curta*, in addition to those reported, were seen in the collections of Robert Constantin (Saint-Lô) and Gianfranco Liberti (Uboldo) in 2011; see LIBERTI (2012: 209) for a list of these specimens.) All reported specimens are dry preserved and housed in the following collections:

CIP Coll. Isidor Plonski, Vienna, Austria.

NMW Naturhistorisches Museum, Vienna, Austria.

SDEI Senckenberg Deutsches Entomologisches Institut, Müncheberg, Germany.

SNM Slovak National Museum (Natural History), Bratislava, Slovakia.

The specimens from NMW and SDEI were examined under an Olympus SMZ 10, those from the SNM under a Nikon SMZ 18. The specimen housed in CIP, which was used for morphological comparison, was seen through both stereo microscopes, to compare relevant characters under different light sources.

Labels are cited and described as accurately as possible, following the conventions detailed in PLONSKI (2014). The following abbreviations are used below: bm = black margin on label; hwr = handwritten information on label; MS = handwriting of a person; p = printed information on label; pg = label out of pastel green paper; w = label out of white paper.

### Taxonomy

#### *Trichoceble curta* (BAUDI, 1874)

See LIBERTI (2012: 208) for a heretofore complete bibliography, and add:

*Trichoceble curta* BAUDI: HOFFMANN 1914: 86 (faunistic record); ANONYMOUS 2010: 27 (publication date).

= *Trichoceble fulvohirta* BRIS. a. *semirufescens* sensu ROUBAL 1927b: 27 (non PIC, 1915).

Published material examined: The “Roubal exemplar”: 1 ♀ (SNM): “Dalmatia [p] \ Makar [43° 18'00" N, 017° 02'00" E] [hwr, MS Roubal] \ VII.[1]924 [p] \ Roubal [p]” [w], “fulvohirta [hwr, MS Roubal] \ Roubal det. [p]” [w], “semiru \ fescens [both lines hwr, MS Roubal] \ Roubal det. [p]” [w]. — This specimen has been additionally labelled with: “*Trichoceble \ curta* \ (BAUDI, 1874) \ rev. I.S. Plonski 2019” [w, p].

Additional material examined: Bosnia and Herzegovina: Herzegovina-Neretva: 1 ♀ (NMW): “Dalmatien. \ Mostar [43°20'N, 17°48'E]. II.7.[19]54. \ leg. Dr. Eckerlein”

[w, hwr, MS Eckerlein], “Trichoceleble [hwr] \ curta Bdi. [hwr] \ det. F. Stöcklein. [p] \ 1956 [hwr]” [w, MS Stöcklein]. – Croatia: Lika-Senji: 1 ♂, 2 ♀♀ (NMW): “Ganglbauer leg. 1897 (t. SPAETH 1912: 425)]. \ Zengg. [= Senji; 44°57'0"N, 14°54'0"E]” [w, p], “curta [hwr, MS Ganglbauer] \ det. Schilsky [p]” [w], “♂ [or ♀ respectively]” [p], “curta [hwr, MS Ganglbauer] \ det. Ganglb. [p]” [w]; the male is supplied with following additional label: “Trichoceleble \ curta” [w, hwr, MS Schilsky]. – Zadar: 1 ♀ (NMW): “Gobanz [leg.] 1901 \ Starigrad [44°17'43"N, 15°26'17"E]” [w, hwr, MS Ganglbauer], “♀” [w, p], “curta [hwr, MS Ganglbauer] \ det. Ganglb. [p]” [w]. – 1 ♀ (NMW): “JUG[OSLAVIA], VELEBIT \ Rovanijska [44°14'52"N, 15°32'22"E] \ Reiser [leg.] 18.6.[19]65”. – Split-Dalmatia: 1 ♂, 2 ♀♀ (NMW): “Dalmatia \ Spalato [= Split; 43°30'36"N, 16°27'0"E]” [w, p], “Collectio \ Kaufmann” [w, p], “♂ [or ♀ respectively]” [p]; the male is supplied with following additional label: “curta [hwr, MS Ganglbauer] \ det. Ganglb. [p]” [w]. – 5 ♀♀ (NMW): “Dalmatia \ Spalato [= Split; 43°30'36"N, 16°27'0"E]” [w, p], “Collect. \ Hauser” [w, p], “♀” [p], “curta [hwr, MS Ganglbauer] \ det. Ganglb. [p]” [w]. – 1 ♂, 3 ♀♀ (NMW): “Spalato [= Split; 43°30'36"N, 16°27'0"E]” [w, hwr], “Collect. \ Hauser” [w, p], “♂ [or ♀ respectively]” [p], “curta [hwr, MS Ganglbauer] \ det. Ganglb. [p]” [w]. – 4 ♀♀ (3 in NMW; 1 in CIP): “Split D[almatia]. \ Novak [leg.] 29.5-[19]85” [w, p]. – 3 ♀♀ (NMW): “Castelnuovo [= Kaštel Novi; 43°33'0"N, 16°20'0"E] \ Hummler [leg.]” [w, p], “♀” [p], “curta [hwr, MS Ganglbauer] \ det. Ganglb. [p]” [w]. – Dubrovnik-Neretva: 2 ♂♂ (NMW): “Ragusa [= Dubrovnik; 42°38'25"N, 18°6'30"E] \ Kaufm[ann leg.]” [w, p], “Collectio \ Kaufmann” [w, p], “♂” [p], “curta [hwr, MS Ganglbauer] \ det. Ganglb. [p]” [w]. – 1 ♀ (NMW): “Ragusa [= Dubrovnik; 42°38'25"N, 18°6'30"E] \ Kaufm[ann leg.]” [w, p], “Julistus \ curtus \ Baudi \ ? \ Ceralus ? \ n. sp.” [w, hwr, MS Kaufmann], “Collectio \ Kaufmann” [w, p], “♂” [p], “curta [hwr, MS Ganglbauer] \ det. Ganglb. [p]” [w]. — Unknown locality: 1 ♀ (NMW): “fulvohirtus \ Dalmatia \ Ka.[jz]” [w, hwr], “c. Epplsh. \ Steind. d.” [w, p], “♀” [w, p], “curta [hwr, MS Ganglbauer] \ det. Ganglb. [p]” [w]. — All specimens from the NMW have been provided with following label: “*Trichoceleble \ curta* \ (BAUDI, 1874) \ rev. I.S. Plonski 2017” [w, p].

**Chromatic variability:** One female from the type locality Ragusa (in NMW) has the head capsule, pronotum and elytra (only tips brightened) almost unicolorous brownish black. Typically, the elytra are distinctly lighter coloured than the head capsule and pronotum. In some specimens, like in the so-called “Roubal exemplar”, the pronotal and elytral margins and/or suture are even lighter than the rest of the elytra.

**Distribution:** Dalmatian endemic: previously recorded for Croatia, Macedonia and Montenegro (LIBERTI 2012); first recorded for Bosnia and Herzegovina.

### *Aplocnemus* (s.str.) *pulverulentus* (KÜSTER, 1850)

= *Trichoceleble paganettii* PIC (nomen ineditus); DÖBLER 1982: 411 (as nomen in schedula).

**Material examined:** Chiotypes of *Trichoceleble paganettii*: 1 ♀ (SDEI): “Zelenika [= 42°27'3"N, 18°35'22"E] \ Paganetti [leg.]” [w, p], “COTYPUS” [r, p], “coll. Leonhard” [w, p], “Trichoceleble \ paganettii \ Pic. \ n.sp.” [w, bm, hwr], “DEI Müncheberg \ Col - 09379” [pg, p], “Trichoceleble \ paganettii \ Pic” [w, hwr]. — 2 ♀♀ (SDEI), with identical patria-collector, cotype and collection labels, then labelled with: “DEI Müncheberg \ Col - 09380 [or ‘09381’ respectively]” [pg, p]. – Additional specimens: 1 ♀ (SDEI), with identical patria-collector label as above, then labelled with: “coll. Fran- \ klin Müller” [w, p], “Trichoceleble \ paganettii Pic” [pg, hwr], “DEI Müncheberg \ Col - 09382” [pg, p]. – All four specimens have been provided each with following label: “*Aplocnemus \ pulverulentus* \ (KÜSTER, 1850) \ rev. I.S. Plonski 2018”.

### Discussion

The “Roubal exemplar”: A solitary female specimen collected by Jan Roubal and Karol Šorner next to Makar village (ROUBAL 1927a: 10) “during blistering heat ante meridiem on scanty grass on sterile ground” (ROUBAL 1927b: 27; author’s translation) in

July 1924 was called a '*Trichocele fulvohirta* BRIS. a. [sic!] *semirufescens* PIC' by ROUBAL (1927b), albeit deviating from both "the forma typica as well the Pician type" (op. cit.; author's translation), and shortly described as having "[p]ronotum and elytra prominently bordered light yellow, the latter broadly tanned along the suture, while the rest of the dorsum remains blackish-brown" (op. cit.; author's translation).

Knowing how ROUBAL (1927b) described his exemplar (see above) doubt about the correct identification of the "Roubal exemplar" is justified not only by zoogeographical consideration:

*Julistus fulvohirtus* var. *semirufescens* PIC, 1915 was described as a chromatic variety of *J. fulvohirtus* BRISOUT DE BARNEVILLE, 1861 based upon a female from Nantes (France) by PIC (1915: 22). LOHSE (1977: 182) synonymized *Trichocele fulvohirta* (BRISOUT DE BARNEVILLE, 1861) with *T. memnonia* (KIESENWETTER, 1861), which was followed by LIBERTI (2012: 226) also upon zoogeographic considerations. MAYOR (2007: 414) synonymized *T. semirufescens* with *T. memnonia*, but PEACOCK (1987: 159), 20 years before, already listed *T. semirufescens* under *T. memnonia*. LIBERTI (2012: 227) re-examined the holotype of *semirufescens*, found it "look[ing] immature, with brown elytra", and validated the aforementioned nomenclatorial acts.

*Trichocele memnonia* specimens have been described as having "dorsal pubescence pale brown; integuments brown to dark brown; legs brown or dark brown with, at times, tibiae and tarsi paler than femora; antennae dark brown with article 2 reddish at times" (LIBERTI 2012: 227).

However, *T. memnonia* does not occur in the Dalmatian region, but is "widespread in south western Europe, from the Spanish side of the Pyrenees to France, southern Germany, Switzerland, and Italy" (LIBERTI 2012: 227 f.), being "not so rare in the Maritime Alps" (op. cit), but a rarity elsewhere, as, e.g., in eastern Austria in relation to the subjective abundance of *T. floralis* (OLIVIER, 1790) (cf. Plonski in SCHUH et al. 2011: 328). Records from other regions, i.e., Baltic or Fenno-Scandian countries, are – in the author's opinion – in need of revision. Misidentifications with *T. floralis* are common in Central Europe, because in the latter species the pubescence is sometimes unpigmented and just with the yellowish colour of chitin (Plonski, unpubl. data).

*Trichocele curta* is a "rather rare species living in the north-west of the Balkan Peninsula", occurring in Croatia, Macedonia, and Montenegro (LIBERTI 2012: 209), thus endemic to the Dalmatian region.

Its chromatic features have been described as having "pubescence yellow, integuments rather pale brown, legs entirely yellow; antennae more or less yellow in basal half and brown in apical; (...) integuments slightly darker on head and pronotum than elytra" (LIBERTI 2012: 208 f.).

The above mentioned "Roubal exemplar" has been found by Vladyslav Mirutenko in the Roubal collection (Box 231), which is housed in SNM, during an ongoing revision of the cleroid beetle material (V. Mirutenko, pers. comm.; e-mail dated Sept. 5<sup>th</sup>, 2017). It was found to be conspecific with other females, which have been revised by the author and are housed in the collection of NMW (see above for data).

The misnomer "*Trichocele paganettii*": Species of *Aplocnemus* STEPHENS, 1830 and *Trichocele* are distinguishable by the morphology of their pretarsal structures at first sight. Such an identification mistake was apparently recognized after typification of

the specimens, since the name was never published validly. It is probable that at least one additional specimen can be found in Coll. Maurice Pic, which is housed in the Museum of Natural History in Paris, since the specimens from the SDEI are all labelled as cotypes.

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