

Synonymic Notes on Some Japanese Chauliognathinae (Coleoptera, Cantharidae)

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Abstract The taxonomic position of different Japanese Chauliognathinae is discussed: the genus *Satoichthyurus* WITTMER, 1978, is considered to be a synonym of *Microichthyurus* PIC, 1919, *Ichthyurus minutulus* GESTRO, 1906 is transferred to the genus *Microichthyurus*, and *Satoichthyurus yukikoeae* (M. SATÔ, 1976) is considered to be a junior synonym of *Microichthyurus minutulus* (GESTRO).

In preparing accounts of the Japanese Chauliognathinae for the third volume of the "Coleoptera of Japan in Color" (SATÔ, 1985), we had to resolve some taxonomic problems concerning certain genera. For *Tryptherus*, nomenclatural changes and new species are treated separately (BRANCUCCI, 1985a). In the present paper the following changes are proposed:

Microichthyurus PIC

Microichthyurus PIC, 1919, Mélanges exot.-ent., (13): 14. — PIC, 1923, Faune Ent. Indochine, 6: 57.
— WITTMER, 1948, Ann. Soc. cient. Argent., (145): 172. — MISKIMEN, 1961, Coleopt. Bull., 15:
24. — DELKESKAMP, 1977, Coleopt. Cat. Suppl., (165): 476 (sp. typ.: *Microichthyurus impressicollis* PIC). — BRANCUCCI, 1983, Ent. basil., 8: 267.
Satoichthyurus WITTMER, 1978, Trans. Shikoku ent. Soc., 14: 85 (sp. typ.: *Ichthyurus yukikoeae* M. SATÔ), n. syn.

Comparing the types of *Satoichthyurus yukikoeae* (M. SATÔ) (type species of *Satoichthyurus*) with the types of *Microichthyurus impressicollis* PIC (type species of *Microichthyurus*), we can find no significant differences at the generic level. Consequently, we propose to consider *Satoichthyurus* WITTMER to be a junior synonym of the genus *Microichthyurus* PIC. However, a morphological study of different species showed that *Microichthyurus* can be grouped according to the last abdominal segments of the male. We will leave the final decision as to the status of *Satoichthyurus*, if it has to be treated as a subgenus or completely suppressed, for a revision of the genus

Microichthyurus is in the course of preparation by the first author.

Microichthyurus minutulus (GESTRO), n. comb.

Ichthyurus minutulus GESTRO, 1906, Ann. Mus. civ. Stor. nat. Genova, 42: 276 (Oshima).

Ichthyurus yukikoeae M. SATÔ, 1976, Trans. Shikoku ent. Soc., 13: 56 (Amami-Ôshima), n. syn.

Satoichthyurus yukikoeae: WITTMER, 1978, Trans. Shikoku ent. Soc., 14: 85.

All the supraspecific characteristics possessed by *Microichthyurus minutulus* (GESTRO) such as very short elytra, well-developed last abdominal segment of the male and the asymmetrical aedeagus, correspond to those found in *Microichthyurus impressicollis* PIC (type species of the genus), and the former undoubtedly belongs to the genus *Microichthyurus*. It has to be placed near *M. pennatus* (LEWIS) and beside the 5 species already known from Taiwan (BRANCUCCI, 1983, 1985b).

The types of *Satoichthyurus yukikoeae* (M. SATÔ) are in no way different from those of *M. minutulus* (GESTRO). Consequently, we propose to consider *S. yukikoeae* (M. SATÔ) to be a junior synonym of *M. minutulus* (GESTRO).

Both the species have been described on the basis of long series of specimens from the Ryukyu Archipelago.

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摘 要

奄美大島から SATÔ (1976) が記載した *Ichthyurus yukikoeae* は、すでに GESTRO (1906) によって *I. minutulus* として記載されていることが判ったので、それらのシノニムに関する覚えを報告した。あわせて、*I. yukikoeae* を基準種として WITTMER (1978) が創設した *Satoichthyurus* は、PIC (1919) によって記載されている *Microichthyurus* と区別できないことが、両属の基準種を調べることにより判明したので、それらのシノニムに関する覚えをも報告した。

References

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