The genus *Neoanthrenus* Armstrong, 1941 (Coleoptera: Dermestidae: Anthrenini): A new synonym of *Anthrenus* Geoffroy, 1762

MARCIN KADEJ1 & JIŘÍ HÁVA2

1Department of Invertebrate Biology, Evolution and Conservation, Faculty of Biology, Evolution and Ecology, University of Wrocław, ul. Przybyszewskiego 63/77, 51-148 Wrocław, Poland. E-mail: entomol@biol.uni.wroc.pl
2Department of Forest Protection and Game Management, Faculty of Forestry and Wood Sciences, Czech University of Life Sciences, Kamýcká 1176, CZ-165 21, Prague 6 - Suchdol, Czech Republic. http://www.dermestidae.wz.cz E-mail: jh.dermestidae@volny.cz

Abstract

A new synonym is proposed for *Anthrenus* Geoffroy, 1762 (= *Neoanthrenus* Armstrong, 1941 syn. n.) and the following species are transferred to *Anthrenus* (Nathrenus): *Anthrenus* (Nathrenus) *armstrongielus* replacement name for *Neoanthrenus armstrongi* Kalík, 1957; *Anthrenus* (Nathrenus) *consobrinus* (Háva), 2005 new combination; *Anthrenus* (Nathrenus) *frater* Arrow, 1915 return to former combination; *Anthrenus* (Nathrenus) *king* (Háva), 2002 new combination; *Anthrenus* (Nathrenus) *macqueeni* (Armstrong), 1949 new combination; *Anthrenus* (Nathrenus) *niveosparsus* (Armstrong), 1941 new combination; *Anthrenus* (Nathrenus) *ocellifer* Blackburn, 1891 return to former combination; *Anthrenus* (Nathrenus) *parallelus* (Armstrong), 1941 new combination; and *Anthrenus* (Nathrenus) *svatopluki* replacement name for *Neoanthrenus bilyi* Háva, 2003b.

Key words: taxonomy, *Neoanthrenus*, *Anthrenus*, morphology, comparative study

Introduction

There are three named genera within the tribe Anthrenini, including: *Anthrenus* Geoffroy, 1762, *Neoanthrenus* Armstrong, 1941, and *Anthrenocerus* Arrow, 1915. *Anthrenus* contains ~220 species worldwide, whereas *Neoanthrenus* and *Anthrenocerus* comprise 9 and 31 species, respectively. Additionally, species of these last two genera are indigenous to Australia and *Neoanthrenus* is endemic to Australia (Mroczkowski 1968; Háva 2003a). In his original designation, Armstrong (1941) compared members of this genus to two cosmopolitan taxa from the genus *Anthrenus*: A. (*Nathrenus*) *verbasci* and A. (s. str.) *pimpinellae*. The main larval similarities between *Neoanthrenus* and *Anthrenocerus* were shown by Kiselyova & McHugh (2006) in their extensive work. Out of the 78 studied features, only 4 were found substantially dissimilar between *Neoanthrenus* and *Anthrenus* (Table 1).

Although the taxonomic status of *Anthrenus* and *Anthrenocerus* remains unchanged, the status of *Neoanthrenus* requires emendation. Major differences which formerly distinguished *Neoanthrenus* from the other two genera of Anthrenini are related to the squamosity rather than scale vestiture of the body. Armstrong’s original description of *Neoanthrenus* reads:

“Body compact, elliptical, densely squamose. Legs slender. Head visible from above. Pronotum anteriorly elevated, posteriorly angulate, abruptly narrowed in the anterior third. Mesosternum entirely bisected. Prosternum deeply and transversely excavated along the anterior margin to receive the antennae. Antennae short, 11-segmented, second segment large and subglobular, third to sixth transverse and moniliform, seventh and eighth moderately pectinate each bearing a stout seta, the remaining three forming a large, compact, sub-ovate, nearly cylindrical club. This genus is close to *Anthrenus*, but is readily distinguishable by its oblong, much less rotund form, the extent to which the head is visible from above, and its anteriorly elevated pronotum. This latter characteristic and the densely squamose clothing differentiate it from *Anthrenocerus*, and its squamose body and the form of its antennae from *Orphinus* and *Trogoderma*.”

Accepted by F. Shockley: 28 Mar. 2013; published: 1 May 2013 87