On the family- and genus-series nomina in Gyrinidae Latreille, 1810
(Coleoptera, Adephaga)

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Abstract

All available genus- and family- group nomina for the Gyrinidae (Coleoptera: Adephaga) are listed along with original citation, original and current status, type nominal taxon with method of designation, and known synonymies and incorrect subsequent spellings. The nomina included follow the most current classification. Discussion is provided clarifying numerous nomenclatural problems with original spellings, correct authorship and type designation. Dineutini Ochs, 1926 syn. nov. is found to be a junior homonym of Dineutini Desmarest, 1851, and Enhydrini Régimbart, 1882 syn. nov. and its justified emendation Enhydrusini (Anonymous 2012) are here synonymized with Dineutini Desmarest, 1851.

Keywords: Coleoptera, Adephaga, Gyrinidae, taxonomy, classification, nomenclature

Introduction

Supraspecific Gyrinidae nomenclature is in great need of review and clarification. The nomenclature suffers from persistent issues of homonymy, synonymy, multiple attributions of authorship, and other problems, especially among genus-series nomina (Dubois 2000), i.e. “genus-group names” in the Code (ICZN 1999). Some of these problems have persisted for a long time, with one, the use of the two different spellings for the same “scientific name” or nomen (Dubois 2000), Dineutus and Dineutes, continuing for over one hundred and eighty years. The last author to treat some of the issues concerning gyrinid nomenclature was Balfour-Browne (1945), whose main focus was fixing types for several generic nomina, but his work was far from a complete review and failed to resolve many problems. Although Guignot (1946) produced a similar more recent paper, his treatment resulted in no change in gyrinid nomenclature. Bouchard et al. (2011) reviewed the family-series nomina in Gyrinidae and pointed out or solved certain problems including clarification of authorship of the subtribe Dineutina Desmarest, 1851. Miller & Bergsten (2012) recently treated the phylogeny of the family Gyrinidae providing the most current classification for the family, and their changes have been incorporated into this work.

A review of the nomenclature above the species-series will facilitate development of a modern catalogue to the Gyrinidae species-series nomina. Several catalogues for the family Gyrinidae exist (Gemminger & Harold 1868; Severin 1889; Alhwarth 1910). These catalogues are greatly out of date given the large numbers of species described in the 20th century (particularly by G. Ochs and P. Brinck), and they include numerous problems including misspellings and incorrect authorship attributions. This paper attempts to catalogue all the nomina associated with the Gyrinidae above the species-series, resolve the issues of authorship of the gyrinid generic nomina, resolve problems with homonymy, clarify correct spellings, and provide for stability and uniformity in gyrinid nomenclature.