New replacement name for the species *Scarabaeus (Scarabaeolus) nitidus* Davis & Deschodt, 2015 (Coleoptera: Scarabaeidae: Scarabaeinae)—not an American pest

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In their review of the subgenus *Scarabaeus (Scarabaeolus)* Balthasar, 1965 (Coleoptera: Scarabaeidae: Scarabaeinae), Deschodt *et al.* (2015) described seven new species from Africa. One of these was *Scarabaeus (Scarabaeolus) nitidus* Davis & Deschodt, known by only twelve specimens from Botswana. This new name is preoccupied by *Scarabaeus nitidus* Linnaeus, 1758, a fact that was overlooked. The latter species has been known as *Cotinis nitida* (Linnaeus) since Burmeister (1842) placed the species in his new genus *Cotinis*. It belongs to the subfamily Cetoniinae of Scarabaeidae, is called the Green June Beetle, and is a common pest species throughout most of the eastern United States (Goodrich 1966; Woodruff 2008).

Below, a new replacement name is proposed in accordance with Article 60 of the *International Code of Zoological Nomenclature* (ICZN 1999), taking cognisance of Article 57.4 that deems the subgeneric name *Scarabaeolus* irrelevant.

**Genus Scarabaeus Linnaeus, 1758: 345**

**Subgenus Scarabaeolus Balthasar, 1965: 14**

*Scarabaeus (Scarabaeolus) afronitidus* Davis & Deschodt nom. nov., nec *Scarabaeus nitidus* Linnaeus, 1758: 350

*Scarabaeus (Scarabaeolus) nitidus* Davis & Deschodt, 2015: 519, syn. n.

**Etymology.** As in the homonymic name, the shiny appearance of the Botswana species is referenced, with *afro-* prefixed to also etymologically discriminate the African from the American species.

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**References**


