Chrysomelidae (Coleoptera) types in the Royal Museum of Scotland Collection

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Abstract

The types of twenty-three Chrysomelidae species in the Royal Museum of Scotland Collection are documented. Syntypes of Cassida flavicornis Olivier, Cassida guttata Olivier, Cassida humeralis Olivier, Cassida multipunctata Olivier, Cassida variolosa Olivier, Chrysomela atra Olivier, Chrysomela erythrocephala Olivier, Chrysomela ignita Olivier, Chrysomela lepida Olivier, Chrysomela variabilis spartii Olivier, Clytra floralis Olivier, Clytra paradoxa Olivier, Colaspis chrysis Olivier, Colaspis smaragdula Olivier, Donacia vittata Olivier, Doryphora angulata Stål, Galeruca coerulea Olivier, G. plebeja Olivier, Hispa maculata Olivier, H. scutellaris Olivier, Paropsis atomaria Olivier, Sagra splendida Olivier, and the lectotype of Chrysomela quadriguttata Olivier are present.

Key words: Coleoptera, Chrysomelidae, type catalog, Royal Museum of Scotland

Introduction

The Royal Museum of Scotland (RSME) is the third largest collection in the United Kingdom with about 1.5 million curated specimens (Arnett et al. 1993). The most important collection is the L. Dufresne (1752-1839) collection which contains A. G. Olivier types.

Louis Dufresne was a zoological preparator for the Museum d'Histoire Naturelle in Paris. His collection includes 12,000 insect specimens representing 900 genera and 3823 species. The collection was purchased by the University of Edinburgh in 1819 (Grimshaw 1897) which is now part of the RMSE (Sweet 1970). Olivier (1789-1808) mentioned that 40 Coleoptera types were described from material in the Dufresne collection. Grimshaw (1897) was only able to locate 19 Coleoptera types and speculated that the remainder were probably in the unsorted Dufresne material.