



A new synonym and new records of Tychiini (Coleoptera, Curculionidae) from Madeira Archipelago and Selvagens Islands

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Tychius bicolor Brisout, 1862 and *Sibinia arenariae* Stephens, 1831 are reported from the Archipelago of Madeira, respectively Madeira and Porto Santo, for the first time. Two additional specimens of *T. filirostris* Wollaston, 1854, known previously from only two specimens from Porto Santo, were examined. Following the study of these specimens and others from the Canary Islands (Tenerife, La Palma) and Selvagen Pequena, *T. colonnellii* Caldara, 1991 from Tenerife is proposed as a junior synonym of *T. filirostris*.

The archipelagos of Macaronesia (Madeira, Azores, Selvagens, Canary Islands and Cape Verde Islands) represent one of the richest areas for endemic species in Europe. Although some genera, especially of beetles, have there undergone considerable radiation, the tribe Tychiini, which in the Palaearctic region comprises about 250 species, is poorly represented in Macaronesia. Its archipelagos harbour only 13 species belonging to the only two genera known in the Palaearctic region, *Tychius* Germar, 1817 and *Sibinia* Germar, 1817. Among these species only three are endemic, the others being mainly of European, Mediterranean and North African distribution. Up to now, in the Macaronesian archipelagos Tychiini are unknown from the Cape Verde Islands and Selvagens, whereas the group has its largest number of species in the Canaries (10), followed by the Azores (2) and Madeira (1). The only species of Tychiini reported so far from Madeira is *T. filirostris* Wollaston, 1854, which was only known from two females collected on the island of Porto Santo and is seemingly endemic to this archipelago.

This study reports new material of *T. filirostris* and two new species records from the Madeira archipelago: *Tychius bicolor* Brisout, 1862 from Madeira and *Sibinia arenariae* Stephens, 1831 from Porto Santo. In addition, examination of Wollaston's holotype and two new specimens of *T. filirostris* and their comparison with the holotype, paratypes and other specimens of *T. colonnellii* Caldara, 1991 from the Canary Islands (Tenerife, La Palma) and Selvagen Pequena (new record) have led to the establishment of a new synonymy. Thus, *T. colonnellii*, considered endemic to the Canary Islands archipelago, is sunk into synonymy with *T. filirostris*. A checklist of all the species of Tychiini present in the archipelagos of Macaronesia is presented.

Tychius filirostris Wollaston

Tychius filirostris Wollaston, 1854: 346; 1857, 111; Caldara 1990: 142.

Tychius colonnellii Caldara, 1991: 185 **syn. n.**

Material examined. Porto Santo, Campo de Cima, 3.vi.2000, leg. D. Aguíñ Pombo, 1 male, 1 female (coll. University of Madeira).

The two new specimens differ a little from each other, since the male is characterized by elongate subrectangular elytra and a dorsal vestiture of nearly unicolorous whitish-grey scales, whereas the female has shorter, oval elytra and the dorsal vestiture medially with reddish brown scales and laterally with whitish ones. Due to these characters, the female is very similar to the holotype of *T. filirostris* as redescribed by Caldara (1990), whereas the male seems intermediate between the holotype of *T. filirostris* and that of *T. colonnellii*, a taxon described from Teno at Tenerife and collected on *Lotus glaucus* Aiton (Caldara 1991). The same variability was found in other short series of specimens from the Canary Islands examined after the description of *T. colonnellii*; those collected in Tenerife (Lomo del Mormillo, on *Lotus* sp., leg. M.G. Morris) are similar to the holotype of *T. filirostris* whereas those collected at La Palma Island (Tagoja Mt., on