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Studies toward a World Catalog of Symphyta (Hymenoptera)

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Abstract

Taxonomic and nomenclatorial changes affecting Symphyta, resulting from work on a forthcoming world catalog, are proposed and explained. *Dolerus zhelochovtsevi* Heidemaa & Viitasaari, **sp. nov.** is described. One former subgenus and two former subspecies are now treated at genus or species level, respectively. Eighteen replacement names are given, 73 new synonymies and 78 new combinations are proposed, 3 synonymies are re-established, and 5 names are resurrected from synonymy. The precedence of 18 species names (nomina protecta) over their older synonyms (20 nomina oblita) is explained. Type species are designated for 8 genus-group names. One neotype and 17 lectotypes are designated. Five names described as varieties are assigned infrasubspecific rank. Twenty-five genus-group names associated with *Arge*, *Corynis*, *Dolerus*, *Trichiosoma* and *Xyela* are unavailable. Two genus-group names and 33 species-group names are considered as unplaced taxa. An identification key is presented for the West Palaearctic species of *Profenusa* MacGillivray, 1914. Notes on publication dates and authorships of names of certain taxa are also included.

Key words: Sawflies, nomenclature, taxonomy, bibliography, new species, new synonymy, new combination, lectotype, neotype, type species designation

Introduction

In this contribution, we clarify unpublished results on the taxonomy and nomenclature of sawflies (Hymenoptera: Symphyta) supplementing a forthcoming world catalog. Numerous new synonyms and combinations affecting extant taxa have already been incorporated in an online catalog (Taeger & Blank 2008), but are now formally published for the first time, with explanatory notes as necessary. Fossil taxa are treated in this paper slightly differently from the extant forms. Some taxonomic treatments affecting fossil taxa reviewed here have already been published elsewhere, but are highlighted because they appear in works that treat also other groups of Hymenoptera, or even other orders of insects and have therefore often been overlooked. To ensure easy accessibility of the information presented below, the taxa are discussed in alphabetical order under the name currently regarded as valid. The concluding section subtitled “Bibliographic notes”, deals mostly with the dates of publication of works containing original descriptions of Symphyta.

A majority of the taxonomic and nomenclatorial treatments proposed in the present paper result from work by S.M. Blank, A.D. Liston and A. Taeger. These are solutions to problems which first became apparent during development of the database on which the existing online and the forthcoming printed catalog rely. The contributions of these three authors are therefore geographically and taxonomically very wide-ranging, and overlap considerably with the subject areas covered by the other co-authors. The remaining co-authors contributed their expertise in areas that are somewhat more narrowly defined: M. Heidemaa and M. Viitasaari (*Aglaostigma* and some *Dolerus*); A. Rasnitsyn (most of the fossil taxa, e.g., not those in *Xyela*); A. Shinohara (some East Palaearctic and Oriental species of *Arge*); D.R. Smith (most of the Nearctic and Neotropical taxa). A number of Neotropical species-group taxa of Blennocampinae and Selandriinae are newly combined in the present work, without further comment. Such taxa were frequently described in *Blennocampa*, *Selandria* and *Strongylogaster*, which today are regarded as occurring exclusively in the Northern Hemisphere. Use of these