



On the identity of *Hybosorus hopei* A. Costa, a forgotten Italian beetle (Coleoptera: Hybosoridae and Tenebrionidae)

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Abstract

Hybosorus hopei A. Costa, 1844 from Naples environs (Italy), described in the Lamellicornia, was later moved by Costa himself to the genus *Trachyscelis* Latreille, 1809 (Tenebrionidae) but was overlooked by almost all subsequent authors. Its history is summarized and the following new synonymy is established: *Trachyscelis aphodioides* Latreille, 1809 = *Hybosorus hopei* A. Costa, 1844 **syn. nov.** Up-to-date global and Italian distributions of *T. aphodioides* are provided.

Key words: *Hybosorus*, Hybosoridae, Scarabaeoidea, Tenebrionidae, *Trachyscelis*, Italy, Mediterranean, new synonymy

Introduction

Achille Costa described, especially in the monumental “Fauna del Regno di Napoli” (cf. D’Erasmus 1949), many new species of Coleoptera from southern Italy. The goal of this paper is to assess the identity of a species which has so far been forgotten: *Hybosorus hopei* A. Costa, 1844a.

Material and methods

The nomenclature and classification follow substantially those of Löbl and Smetana (2006) and of Löbl *et al.* (2008).

The material examined was identified using Porta (1934a), Koch (1935) and Steiner (2004). The localities of collections are listed in alphabetic order. Author’s remarks are given in square brackets.

The dates of publication of the issues of “Fauna del Regno di Napoli” are according to D’Erasmus (1949).

The following abbreviations are used: coll. = collection; dep. = department; ex = specimen/s; Is. = Islands; leg. = legit or legerunt; nd = collection date not indicated; prov. = province; reg. = region; sdb = same data but; sr = same reg.; srd = same reg. and dep.; srp = same reg. and prov.

The principal collectors are abbreviated as follows: AF = A. Focarile; AS = A. Sette; FA = F. Angelini; GC = G. M. Carpaneto; GN = G. Nardi; GS = G. Scaglioni; LS = L. Spada; MB = M. Barajon; MU = M. Burlini; PC = P. Cornacchia; RM = R. Montali; VA = V. Aliquò; ZZ = no collector mentioned.

Acronyms of specimen depositories

CGN	G. Nardi private coll., Cisterna di Latina, Italy
CNBFVR	Centro Nazionale per lo Studio e la Conservazione della Biodiversità Forestale “Bosco Fontana”. Sede di Bosco Fontana. Marmirolo, Italy
CPC	P. Cornacchia private coll., Porto Mantovano, Italy
MCSV	Museo Civico di Storia Naturale, Verona, Italy