



Study of a part of the A. G. Olivier Lixini collection (Coleoptera: Curculionidae): lectotype designations, new synonymies and nomenclatural acts

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Abstract

A search for Lixini (Curculionidae: Lixinae) species housed in the Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris and the Swedish Natural History Museum, Stockholm allowed the study of a part of the G. -A. Olivier collection. Lectotypes are designated for *Larinus centaurii* (Olivier, 1807), *Larinus cuniculus* (Olivier, 1807), *Larinus gravidus* (Olivier, 1807), *Larinus carthami* (Olivier, 1807), *Lixus cardui* Olivier, 1807, *Lixus iridis* Olivier, 1807, *Lixus recurvus* Olivier, 1807 and *Lixus myagri* Olivier, 1807. The following new synonymies and homonymies become evident: *Larinus centaurii* (Olivier, 1807) [= *L. ungulatus* Gyllenhal, 1835 **syn. nov.**, *L. centaureae* Becker, 1864 **nom. nud.**, *L. beckeri* Petri, 1907 **syn. nov.**]; *Larinus cuniculus* (Olivier, 1807) [= *L. marki* Ter-Minassian, 1982 **syn. nov.**]; *Larinus ursus* (Fabricius, 1792) [= *L. cuniculus* Walker, 1871 **hom. nov.** nec *L. cuniculus* (Olivier, 1807) **syn. nov.**]; *Larinus gravidus* (Olivier, 1807) [= *L. schoenherrri* Capiomont, 1874 **syn. nov.**]; *Larinus carthami* (Olivier, 1807) [= *L. crassus* Capiomont, 1874 **syn. nov.**, *L. griseotessellatus* Capiomont, 1874 **syn. nov.**; *L. brevisculus* Desbrochers, 1892 **syn. nov.**]; *Lixus recurvus* Olivier, 1807 [= *L. nordmanni* Hochhuth, 1847 **syn. nov.**]; *Lixus myagri* Olivier, 1807 [= *L. lycophoeus* Boheman, 1835 **syn. nov.**].

Key words: Lectotypes, new synonymies, Olivier, Lixini, Curculionidae

Introduction

The tribe Lixini Schoenherr, 1823 is a rather speciose one, being comprised of around 700 species (Csiki, 1934) with 13 genera worldwide (Alonso-Zarazaga & Lyal, 1999). The highest number of Lixini is to be found in the Palearctic with over 300 species, closely followed by the Afrotropical region with 200 species. The largest genera are *Lixus* Fabricius, 1801 (about 200 species) and *Larinus* Dejean, 1821 (about 150 species). Species within Lixini are strictly phytophagous and economically important; however, they are still taxonomically poorly known, although some recent papers by Gültekin (2006, 2010), Gültekin & Perrin (2006) have started to clarify the status of several species previously incorrectly identified. This paper presents an additional contribution, with the study of the types of some of the species described by Olivier in the first decade of the nineteenth century.

Guillaume-Antoine Olivier (1756–1814) was a French naturalist and entomologist. He collected extensively in Europe and made a great journey of six years in the Middle East, then included in the Ottoman Empire, Persia and Egypt. He assembled an extensive collection and returned to France in 1798. He wrote a series of volumes in a span of over 35 years from 1789 to 1825, publishing 10 volumes and 389 colour plates. Volumes dealing with Curculionidae are the fourth (Olivier, 1789) and the fifth (Olivier, 1790) of the “Encyclopédie méthodique”, and the fifth (Olivier, 1807) and the eighth for plates (Olivier, 1808) of the “Entomologie”. His collection is preserved mainly in the Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle in Paris, a small part in the Royal Museum of Scotland in Edinburgh, the Hunterian Zoology Museum of the University of Glasgow in Glasgow, and a part in the Swedish Natural History Museum in Stockholm (Horn et al. 1990).

Olivier (1807) described 70 species under the genus *Lixus*, 35 of these new. Currently these species are spread among *Lixus*, *Larinus*, *Rhinocyllus* Germar, 1817 and *Liocleonus* Motschulsky, 1860. The present note deals with type material of eight Lixini species described by Olivier, with some new synonymies and nomenclatural changes.