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Correction of the type species of the South American genus *Gromphas* Brullé, 1837 (Coleoptera: Scarabaeidae: Scarabaeinae: Phanaeini)

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Recently, we (Cupello & Vaz-de-Mello, 2013) presented a taxonomic revision of the dung beetle genus *Gromphas* Brullé, 1837 in which we recognized the validity of five species: *Gromphas aeruginosa* (Perty, 1830), *G. amazonica* Bates, 1870, *G. dichroa* Blanchard, 1846, *G. inermis* Harold, 1869, and *G. lemoinei* Waterhouse, 1891. In that work, we also confirmed that *Gromphas* was described by Brullé (1837) without any included species and that the widely cited name “*Gromphas lacordairei* Brullé” was never formally described or cited by Brullé and, in fact, all citations to this name refer to *G. lacordairii* Burmeister, 1874, a junior synonym of *G. inermis* Harold, 1869. Thus, the question of the identity of the type species of *Gromphas* remained open.

According Article 67.2.2 of the International Code of Zoological Nomenclature (ICZN, 1999), when a nominal genus was established before 1931 without included nominal species, “*the nominal species that were first subsequently and expressly included in it are deemed to be the only originally included nominal species*”. In Cupello & Vaz-de-Mello (2013) we believed that the first species included in *Gromphas* were those described by Blanchard (1846), *G. dichroa* and *G. lacordairei* (junior subjective synonym of *G. aeruginosa*). Therefore, we designated one of them, *G. dichroa*, as the type species of *Gromphas* (the date of publication of the Blanchard’s work follows Sherborn & Woodward (1901) and Evenhuis (1997), as we did in Cupello & Vaz-de-Mello (2013)).

We have since discovered that Blanchard’s species were not the first included in *Gromphas*. *Onitis aeruginosus* Perty, 1830 was transferred to *Gromphas* by Sturm (1843, p. 108) three years before publication of the descriptions of *G. dichroa* and *G. lacordairei*. In accordance with Articles 67.2.2 and 69.3 of the Code (ICZN, 1999), ***Onitis aeruginosus* Perty, 1830 is to be deemed as the only originally included nominal species in *Gromphas* and therefore must be regarded as the type species of the genus by subsequent monotypy.** Consequently, our designation of *G. dichroa* as the type species of *Gromphas* must be disregarded.

In Cupello & Vaz-de-Mello (2013), we considered that *O. aeruginosus* was first transferred to *Gromphas* by Harold (1859), who was unaware of Sturm’s action. It also appears that this action was unknown to Lacordaire (1856), who stated that *O. aeruginosus* needed to be transferred to a genus near *Gromphas*, as well as to the other authors that worked with the taxonomy of *Gromphas* (e.g., d’Olsoufieff (1924); Barattini & Sáenz (1960, 1964)). Even though Harold’s transfer was more clearly justified than Sturm’s, who merely listed *O. aeruginosus* in *Gromphas*, it is Sturm who should be regarded as the first to assign *O. aeruginosus* to *Gromphas*. The synonymy between *G. aeruginosa* and *G. lacordairei*, as we have stated before (Cupello & Vaz-de-Mello, 2013), was first proposed by Harold (1859).

This correction of the type species of *Gromphas* present here does not affect any other nomenclatural action introduced by Cupello & Vaz-de-Mello (2013).

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