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Trachelostenini *sensu novo*: redescriptions of *Trachelostenus* Solier, *Myrmecodema* Gebien and *Leaus* Matthews & Lawrence, based on adults and larvae, and descriptions of three new species of *Leaus* (Coleoptera: Tenebrionidae)

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Abstract

The former family Trachelostenidae is returned to tribal status in Tenebrionidae-Tenebrioninae and reconstituted to include *Trachelostenus* Solier, 1851 of southern Chile, currently in a separate family Trachelostenidae, *Myrmecodema* Gebien, 1943 of central Chile, currently in Stenochiinae-Cnodalonini, and *Leaus* Matthews & Lawrence, 1992 of eastern Australia, currently in Tenebrioninae-Titaenini. The three genera are redescribed in both the adult and larval stages. Three new species: *Leaus tropicalis* **sp.n**. *L. monteithi* **sp. n.** and *L. elusus* **sp. n**. are described. Trachelostenine larval characters are compared with those of related tribes of Tenebrioninae: Titaenini, Heleini, Helopini, Helopinini, Ulomini and Toxicini. The Chilean genus *Homocyrtus* Dejean is briefly discussed and left *incertae sedis* in Tenebrionidae. Examination of *Lagriola* Kirsch (Lagriinae), originally associated with *Trachelostenus*, leads to the following name changes: *Lagriola* Kirsch, 1873 = *Paratenetus* Spinola, 1844, **syn. n**.; *Paratenetus operosus* (Kirsch, 1873) (*Lagriola*), **comb. n**.; *Paratenetus championi*, **nom. n**. for *P. denticulatus* Champion, 1886 *nec P. denticulatus* (Kirsch, 1873) (*Lagriola*) **comb. n**.

Key words: Chile, Australia, Titaenini, *Lagriola*, *Homocyrtus, Cerodolus*

Introduction

Trachelostenus Solier was originally described in an artificial group comprising several heteromeran families. Lacordaire (1859) proposed the tribe Trachelostenides of the Lagriidae (now part of Tenebrionidae) to receive it. The name was first Latinised as Trachelostenini of Lagriidae by Seidlitz (1898), who also included *Hydromedion* Waterhouse (Promecheilidae) in the tribe. Borchmann (1910) grouped it in a subfamily Trachelosteninae of Lagriidae with three other genera: *Isocera* Borchmann and *Rhosaces* Champion (both moved by Borchmann 1936 to Lagriidae-Statirinae) and *Lagriola* Kirsch, which was later removed from Lagriidae to an unspecified place in Tenebrionidae by Borchmann (1936), leaving only *Trachelostenus* in Trachelosteninae. Examination of the types of the two described species of *Lagriola* in the Museum für Tierkunde, Dresden, revealed that they belong to the genus *Paratenetus* Spinola, a member of the Lagriinae completely unrelated to Trachelostenini (see note below). Watt (1974) excluded *Trachelostenus* from Tenebrionidae and later (Watt 1987) elevated it to family status as Trachelostenidae, where it has remained until the present time. This move was based mainly on the lack of connation of the abdominal ventrites and prominence of the pro- and mesocoxae. Lawrence & Slipinski (2010) also treated the group as a family but noted a direct relationship to basal Tenebrionidae. Its present move back into Tenebrionidae is based on synapomorphies with *Leaus* Matthews & Lawrence and *Myrmecodema* Gebien, both of which are unquestionably tenebrionids.

Trachelostenini and Titaenini are possibly related basal groups which could be included in the informal 'primitive tenebrionine lineage' of Doyen & Tschinkel (1982), and which share many plesiomorphies. The only shared adult apomorphy is abbreviated elytral epipleura, and there are some larval synapomorphies as discussed below. Collectively they have an Austral Gondwanan or Notogean distribution which includes eastern Australia,

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