

SOME FURTHER TAXONOMIC OBSERVATIONS ON
DELPHACIDAE (HOM.), INCLUDING A SYNONYMIC
CHANGE AND A NEW EUROPEAN SPECIES

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Some new facts have come to light since I wrote my recent paper on this family (Le Quesne, 1960), which necessitate a further publication. These are largely based on correspondence with Dr. W. Wagner, Professor H. Ribaut, Dr. R. Linnavuori, Dr. S. von Keler and Dr. W. Forster, to all of whom I am much indebted.

Megamelodes Le Quesne, 1960

(= *Delphacodes* Linnavuori (1957), et *Dlabola* (1957), nec Fieber (1866))

Both Dr. W. Wagner and Professor H. Ribaut have suggested to me (*in litt.*) that the direction of the outer keels of the pronotum may not be a good generic character: Wagner has pointed out that two apparently very similar species, *propinqua* Fieber and *albicollis* Motsch. (cf. Wagner, 1954) would have to be allocated to separate genera on the basis of this character.

I certainly feel that the genera *Megamelodes* and *Delphacodes* Fieber (as used in Le Quesne, 1960) are quite closely allied, but on a basis of examination of the British species only, I still feel inclined to regard them as distinct. However, I should like to point out that should the view of Wagner and Ribaut be found to be the correct one, the whole combined genus will have to be called *Delphacodes* Fieber, 1866, rather than *Calligypona* Sahlberg, 1871, the name which these authors have used in publications hitherto. In these circumstances, the alteration in my check list (1960) would be only to transfer the four species there referred to *Megamelodes* back to *Delphacodes*.

Megamelodes *linnavuorii* sp. nov.

(= *Delphacodes* *mulsanti* Linnavuori (1957), et *Dlabola* (1957), nec Fieber (1866))

As discussed in my earlier paper (Le Quesne, 1960), I cannot regard the species described by Linnavuori (1957) and *Dlabola* (1957) as being the same as Fieber's species, in view of the differences in the male genitalia. Dr. Linnavuori has agreed to my renaming this species, as Professor Ribaut has informed me (*in litt.*) that it is not identical with *audrasi* Ribaut, 1954. I therefore propose to call the species *Megamelodes* *linnavuorii*.

Dr. W. Wagner has kindly loaned me two specimens from Canet Plage, Pyrénées-Orientales, France. These were closely allied to *linnavuorii*, but differed from it in the form of the aedeagus: I could not regard these as *Delphacodes* *mulsanti*, for the same reasons as cited in the case of *linnavuorii*.

Delphacodes pellucida (Fabricius, 1794)
= *marginata* (Fabricius, 1794)

Delphacodes striatella (Fallén, 1826)
= *marginata* auctt. nec (Fabricius, 1794)

Dr. W. Wagner informs me (*in litt.*) that he has examined the type of *Fulgora marginata* Fabricius at the Zoological Institute at Kiel; it was a male identical with *pellucida* Fabricius. The name *marginata* has in more recent years incorrectly been taken as synonymous with *striatella* Fallén, and appeared as such in my recent (1960) check-list.

Delphacodes boldi (Scott, 1870)
= *consanguinea* (Scott, 1873)

Dr. W. Wagner also tells me (*in litt.*) that he has examined the type of *consanguinea* Scott, which he saw through the kindness of Dr. China, and found it identical with *boldi*. I have now re-examined the type of *consanguinea* in the British Museum (Nat. Hist.) and confirm his finding. In my check-list (1960), I incorrectly gave *consanguinea* as a synonym of *distincta* Flor.

Chloriona unicolor (Herrich-Schaeffer, 1835)

(= *edwardsi* Le Quesne (1960), = *prasimula* Edwards (1898), nec Fieber (1872))

Linnavuori (1958) published a description of *Chloriona unicolor* Herrich-Schaeffer, which I saw recently. On my writing to Dr. Linnavuori, he kindly sent me a specimen which, as I had suspected, was identical with my *edwardsi*. I thereupon wrote to Dr. W. Wagner, who replied that he also regarded *edwardsi* (of which I sent him details) and *unicolor* as identical, drawing my attention to Fieber's (1878) description, which says: "Tube anal enfoncé, court, carré vu de derrière; avec une petite pointe rouge subulée, fine, proéminente, à ses 2 angles inférieurs". Moreover Wagner says that he only knows five *Chloriona* species from Central Europe, i.e. *dorsata* Edwards, *glaucescens* Fieber, *smaragdula* Stål (= *prasimula* Fieber), *unicolor* Herrich-Schaeffer and *vasconica* Ribaut.

I have already (1960) shown the identity of *edwardsi* Le Quesne with the species regarded by Edwards (1898) as *prasimula*, in disagreement with Fieber's description of the latter species. I could not find an intact male labelled *unicolor* in the British Museum (Nat. Hist.). I learned through Dr. von Keler that the Zoologische Sammlung des Bayerischen Staates at Munich had contained part of the Herrich-Schaeffer collection of Hemiptera; the whereabouts of the other part seems unknown. I wrote to this Museum to learn that the whole of the collection in their possession had been destroyed during an air-raid in 1944.

In these circumstances, since the type of *unicolor* is missing and Herrich-Schaeffer's description is inadequate, Fieber must be regarded as the first reviser to describe the species clearly. I, therefore, now regard *edwardsi* Le Quesne as a synonym of *unicolor* Herrich-Schaeffer.

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