

SIGARA SCHOLTZI FIEBER, [1860] (INSECTA, HETEROPTERA):
PROPOSED CONSERVATION BY THE SUPPRESSION OF *SIGARA*
SCHOLTZII SCHOLTZ, 1846. Z.N.(S.)2494

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Scholtz, 1846, listed the Rhynchota from Silesia, and in a few cases short notes on the biology of the species were provided. *Sigara scholtzii* (p. 106) was presented as follows: '*S. Scholtzii* Fieb. (in litt.). Bei Breslau häufig in Lachen an der Rosenthaler Strasse und im Kratzbusch. Anmerkung. Diese ebenfalls von Fieber ausgestellte Art wird nächstens durch den Autor näher erörtert werden. — Die kleinere und von ihr wesentlich verschiedene *Sigara minuta* Fabr., die nicht wie *S. Scholtzii* in stehenden Wässern mit schlammigem Grunde, sondern mehr in klaren Wasser der Flüsse und zwar unter Steinen am Ufer vorkommt, fand ich bisher noch nicht. Ob unsere Art, gleichwie *S. minuta*, ein deutlich wahrnehmbares Schwirren hören lasse, nahm ich bisher noch nicht wahr.'

2. As pointed out by Lundblad, 1928, and Wróblewski, 1958, the above note may be considered insufficient as a description of *S. scholtzii* because it only gives the size of *S. minuta* as a smaller species and does not even mention *S. scholtzii* as the basis of the comparison although it was undoubtedly so intended. On the other hand, even indirect reference to the size of a species may be considered by some taxonomists sufficient to make *scholtzii* available and therefore the valid name for the specimen that was before Scholtz.

3. Fieber, 1851, p. 210, listed *S. scholtzii* as one of the species to be described later.

4. Fieber [1860], pp. 89–90 (usually referred to as Fieber, 1861, but, according to Kirkaldy, 1908, the book was printed in four parts, the first part up to page 112 being published in 1860; cf. also Hagen, 1862) described '*Sigara Scholtzi* Fieb.', also referring to Scholtz, 1846 and Fieber, 1851, thus indicating that the previous references concerned the same species. The material from which the description was drawn originated from Breslau (Scholtz collection) and Spain (Meyer-Dür collection), and while it is not known whether the former material is still in existence, the Meyer-Dür collection in the American Museum of Natural History, New York, includes a female specimen designated as the lectotype by Jansson, 1986 (in press).

5. *Micronecta meridionalis* (Costa, 1862, p. 361) has hitherto been given priority over *M. scholtzi* (Fieber [1860]). This inconsistency has arisen from the words 'XVI Kalendas Septembris 1860' (= 17th of August, 1860, not 16th September 1860 as stated by Kerzhner, 1974) on the title page of Costa's paper. This date however, only refers to the day of presentation of the manuscript, not to the publication date. In fact the correct reference is

Costa, 1862 (see Kerzhner, 1974) which makes *Sigara meridionalis* Costa, 1862, a junior subjective synonym of *Micronecta scholtzi* (Fieber, [1860]).

6. Differing opinions about the availability of the name *scholtzii* Scholtz, 1846 have led to nomenclatural inconsistencies, and the specific name has been written either as *scholtzi* or *scholtzii* and the author has been given either as 'Scholtz' (e.g. Kloet & Hinks, 1964), or '(Fieber) Scholtz' (e.g. Kloet & Hinks, 1945; Macan, 1956; Poisson, 1957) or as 'Fieber' (e.g. Stichel, 1935; Hutchinson, 1940; Southwood & Leston, 1959). The correct references to '*Sigara scholtzii* Scholtz' appear only in papers in which the name has been considered a *nomen nudum*, e.g. Lundblad, 1928, Poisson, 1938 and Wróblewski, 1958.

7. To stabilize the situation, the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature is asked to:

- (1) use its plenary powers to suppress the specific name *scholtzii* Scholtz, 1846, as published in the binomen *Sigara scholtzii* for the purposes of the Principle of Priority but not for those of the Principle of Homonymy;
- (2) place the specific name *scholtzi* Fieber, [1860], as published in the binomen *Sigara scholtzi* and as interpreted by the lectotype designated by Jansson, 1986, on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology;
- (3) place the specific name *scholtzii* Scholtz, 1846 as published in the binomen *Sigara scholtzii* and as suppressed under the plenary powers in (1) above on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Specific Names in Zoology.

[Note: *Corisa meridionalis* Wallengren, 1875, a South African species now well known as *Sigara meridionalis* (Wallengren), has been overlooked as a junior secondary homonym of *Sigara meridionalis* Costa, 1862, but because the latter is a synonymic name and the two are not now held to be congeneric, there is no need to reject the former. See Article 59c].

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