

ATTELABUS LINNAEUS, 1758 (INSECTA, COLEOPTERA):
REQUEST FOR CONFIRMATION OF DESIGNATION OF
TYPE-SPECIES. Z.N.(S.) 2209

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1. Linnaeus (1758, *Syst. Nat.*, ed. 10: 387) described the genus *Attelabus*, with ten species included. Later (Linnaeus 1767, *Syst. Nat.*, ed. 12: 619) he included more species, among them *A. curculionoides*, a new species which he himself synonymized with *Curculio nitens* Scopoli (1763, *Ent. Carniol.*: 25). Although a junior synonym, the name *A. curculionoides* was used for more than a hundred years, but was finally replaced by *A. nitens* in the end of the 19th century.

2. The ten originally included *Attelabus* species have later been transferred to different genera, most of them belonging to other families, such as CLERIDAE and TENEBRIONIDAE. *Attelabus curculionoides* remained, however, in the genus, so Schönherr (1823, *Curculionides*, *Isis* (Oken) 1823 : 1135) was following normal usage when he designated that species type of *Attelabus*.

3. Schönherr's designation is invalid according to the Code, but since it has been unanimously accepted, a change would only cause confusion. The generic name *Attelabus* is the basis for the family-name ATTELABIDAE. Two of the originally included species are currently considered to belong to this family, namely *A. coryli* and *A. betulae*. The former is presently known as *Apoderus coryli* (L.), the latter as *Deporaus betulae* (L.). Within ATTELABIDAE *Apoderus* is the type of the subfamily APODERINAE, while *Deporaus* is included in RHYNCHITINAE, being type of the tribe DEPORAINI. Thus the choice of either of these names would be against the interest of stability, as would in a still higher degree be the choice of any species outside the family.

4. Therefore, in the interest of stability, the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature is requested:

- (1) to use its plenary powers to confirm the designation by Schönherr in 1823 of *Attelabus curculionoides* L. as type-species of *Attelabus* Linnaeus, 1758;
- (2) to place on the Official List of Generic Names the name *Attelabus* Linnaeus, 1758, (gender: masculine), type-species (by designation of Schönherr and confirmed by the plenary powers under (1) above): *Attelabus curculionoides* Linnaeus, 1767 [= *Curculio nitens* Scopoli, 1763]

- (3) to place on the Official List of Specific Names the name *nitens* Scopoli, 1763, as published in the binomen *Curculio nitens* [senior synonym of *Attelabus curculionoides* Linnaeus, 1767].



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