

during the 11-hour debate by the House of Commons. Franklin has been regarded by some as "one of history's pre-eminent diplomats." In addition to his urbanity and versatility, Franklin found doors opened to him by virtue of his scientific prestige, which had preceded him. Five times he was elected to the Royal Society Council. On the other hand, he was *persona non grata* to George the 3rd, whose coronation he attended in 1761; the king, being indifferent to both science and trade, learned to dislike this colonial patriot more and more. A political storm arose when certain letters containing inflammatory comments by Thomas Hutchison, Governor of Massachusetts, were indiscreetly used by colonial agitators as evidence for having the governor deposed. Franklin publicly admitted on Christmas day 1773 that he had sent them to Boston for private circulation. He was summoned to appear before the Privy Council two weeks later, when he was summarily dismissed as deputy postmaster general; the petition for deposal was rejected. He departed from England in disgrace on May 5th, 1775, a trip saddened by news of his wife's death. Franklin's dual role (royal appointee and colonial agent) had raised doubts on both sides of the Atlantic as to his true loyalty. Until the Revolution to be sure, he was a moderate, attempting reconciliation, but thereafter there was no question as to his colonial patriotism.

The day after his arrival, he was elected a Pennsylvania delegate (its oldest member) to the Second Continental Congress. A year later he was a member of the Committee that drafted the Declaration of Independence. He was elected a Pennsylvania delegate to the Constitutional Convention. At 70 he was appointed one of the three Commissioners to negotiate treaties of amity and commerce abroad, particularly at the French court of the 22-year-old Louis the 16th and the 21-year-old Marie Antoinette. As he had been accompanied to London by his son William, so he now went with the latter's illegitimate son, William Temple.



Fig. 8. "A Genie D. Franklin" (1778—J. Fragonard).

He received personal acclaim by the French as a philosopher of the Enlightenment, due primarily to his scientific achievement. He was more or less the official representative of American learning abroad. His reception was greater than that for any other American before or after him. He was, indeed, the first American to attain a truly international reputation; his scientific prestige was America's greatest asset abroad. The simplicity of his sober attire (wigless, fur cap) in the country of the romantic J. J. Rousseau and his ready wit in the city of the satirist Voltaire endeared him to the populace. Despite his old age, Franklin was welcomed also by a galaxy of intelligent women; in the prevailing French mood of flirtation he charmed them with his almost Parisian gallantries and *bons mots*. At the same time he sought to promote the public understanding of remote America. (He never could refrain from hoaxes; the French novelist H. de Balzac remarked that Franklin was the inventor of the lightning rod, the hoax, and the republic.) The 1777 Saratoga defeat of the English com-



mander (and dramatist) J. Burgoyne turned the tide of French sympathy toward America. Among his many duties Franklin recommended various individuals to Congress; among them were the 20-year old Marquis de Lafayette and the Prussian Baron von Steuben, both of whom became major generals in the colonial army. Franklin, together with commissioners John Adams and John Jay, signed the 1783 peace treaty in Paris. At 75, Franklin submitted his resignation but was not permitted to do so by Congress until four years later. Before he left Paris he served on a French Commission with the physician J. I. Guillotin; the chemist, A. L. Lavoisier, *et al.* to evaluate the claims of the Austrian charlatan physician F. A. Mesmer.

In 1787 he was a member (its oldest) of the Constitutional Convention. His compromise of a bicameral Congress satisfied both the proponents of equal state representation and their opponents, who demanded proportionate population consideration—adopted 17 September

(Constitution Day) 1787. On September 16, 1788, at the age of 82, Franklin resigned his presidency of the special Pennsylvania Convention for ratification of the Constitution—the last Colony had approved it. His political career was ended; two years later he signed a memorial about slavery, his last act of public service.

Ever curious and industrious, Franklin had wistfully hoped to devote his retirement to scientific pursuits, but gout, bladder stone, and failing eyesight combined to produce a lingering painful illness. He died April 7, 1790. Four days later a cortege of 20,000 persons followed him mournfully from the State House (later Independence Hall) to the burial ground.

Our Franklin heritage is his full life as a wholesome person, who walked reverently in this wonder-full universe, and who touched his fellow sojourners with a loving heart and uplifting hands. He had personal integrity.



# The Correct Identity of *Stator bixae* (Drapiez) with Lectotype Designation (Coleoptera: Bruchidae)

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## ABSTRACT

Two species of Bruchidae, *Stator bixae* (Drapiez) from Brazil and French Guiana, and *S. championi* (Sharp) found from Costa Rica to Brazil, have been treated as 1 species. Both breed in seeds of *Bixa orellana* L. The 2 species are differentiated, and the lectotype of *S. bixae* is designated.

An examination of the type-specimens of *Stator bixae* (Drapiez) has revealed a misapplication of the name to a species now known as *Stator championi* (Sharp) described from Panama. A redescription of the true *bixae* and designation of the lectotype is presented, and characters distinguishing it from *championi* are given.

A number of references concerning the biology of "*Bruchus bixae*" appear in the literature, and these are discussed at the end of this paper.

### *Stator bixae* Drapiez

*Bruchus bixae* Drapiez, 1820, p. 120; Gyllenhal in Schoenh. 1833, p. 32; Pic, 1913, p. 19; Everts, 1923, p. 199.

*Bruchidius bixae*: Herford, 1935, p. 16.

*Acanthoscelides bixae*: Blackwelder, 1946, p. 759.

Body length—2.5–2.75 mm; width—1.6–1.8 mm. Integument red to piceous, eyes black; vestiture of gray, golden, and dark brown fine setae in variable pattern (Figs. 1, 2).

Body subovate. Head subtriangular, eyes protruding, ocular sinus about one-third length of eye; frontal carina prominent, frons and clypeus finely punctate, frontoclypeal suture angulate;

segments 4–11 of antenna slightly eccentric. Postocular fringe narrow, postocular patch of setae present. Pronotum subconical, lateral margins straight, disk evenly convex, finely, evenly, punctate, slightly depressed basally on each side of and at middle of basal lobe, lateral carina present only in basal one-third, nearly hidden by vestiture. Scutellum subquadrate, emarginate apically. Elytra as long as wide; striae not distorted, shallowly sulcate, only 2nd and 6th reaching basal margin, 3rd, 4th and 5th beginning basally on a level with base of scutellum, striae not coalescent apically. Pygidium in both sexes subtriangular, with 3 large subbasal yellow-gray spots, vestiture between spots sparse, becoming denser toward apex. Front and middle legs unmodified; entire hind coxal face densely, finely punctate; hind femur bicarinate on ventral margin, sulcate between carinae, mesal carina with acute subapical spine preceded by 2 or 3 setose notches, lateral carina sinuate subapically; hind tibia stout, ventral carina ending in short, acute mucro, lateral carina ending in short spine, lateroventral carina ending in sinus between mucro and lateral spine.

Male genitalia (Figs. 3, 4): median lobe broad; ventral valve triangular, ending in small tubercle; internal sac armed with acute, flat denticles in basal ½, with slender spicules in 2 membranous lateral sacs, and scattered short denticles in apical half; apex cylindrical, armed with many fine spicules. Lateral lobes arcuate, flattened, expanded then attenuated apically.



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