

Case 2830

***Corisa nigrolineata* Fieber, 1848 (currently *Sigara* (*Pseudovermicorixa*) *nigrolineata*; Insecta, Heteroptera): proposed conservation of the specific name**

Antti Jansson

Zoological Museum, P.O. Box 17, FIN-00014 University of Helsinki,
Finland

John T. Polhemus

University of Colorado Museum, 3115 S. York, Englewood, Colorado 80110,
U.S.A.

Abstract. The purpose of this application is to conserve the specific name of the water-boatman species *Corisa nigrolineata* Fieber, 1848 by the suppression of the unused senior subjective synonyms *Notonecta minutior* Sulzer, 1776 and *N. minuta* Gmelin, 1790.

1. *Notonecta minutior* Sulzer, 1776 (p. 91, pl. 10, fig. 1) was described from material collected in Switzerland; the original material is lost (Horn & Kahle, 1936, p. 273). Sulzer's comparison to *N. minutissima* Linnaeus, 1758 (p. 439) was misleading as he said that *N. minutior* was smaller, but the drawing in plate 10 shows its length to be about 6 mm which is more than twice as much as in Linnaeus's species. In the description of *N. minutior* the color of the pronotum and the hemelytra (green, with several brown transverse lines and strands) showed that the species belongs to the CORIXIDAE. The only species of matching size with transverse stripes on the hemelytra and occurring commonly in Switzerland is *Corisa nigrolineata* Fieber, 1848 (p. 527), currently known as *Sigara* (*Pseudovermicorixa*) *nigrolineata nigrolineata* (Fieber).

2. Subsequent references to *N. minutior* are: (1) Goeze (1778, p. 169) and (2) Roemer (1789, pp. 14 & 78) who both listed the species but did not add any useful characteristics for identification. (3) Gmelin (1790, p. 2119) who made an unjustified emendation by calling the species *Notonecta minuta*; he repeated the short description and stated that it did not necessarily belong to the genus *Notonecta* (note concerning species number 6–12 under *N. marginata*); Gallén (1787, p. 61) had already used the name *Notonecta minuta* but without author or description, thereby making *N. minuta* Gallén, 1787 a nomen nudum. (4) Schrank (1801, p. 60) placed the species in the genus *Sigara*, and stated that it occurred with *S. striata* and was less than half its size. (5) Turton (1802, p. 605), in a translation of Gmelin (1790), gave the characteristics of *Notonecta minuta* in English and gave its distribution as Europe, but did not translate the note about possible incorrect generic placement. (6) Gistel (1856, p. 256) listed *Sigara minutior* Sulzer from European standing waters. (7) Reuter (1888, p. 283) indicated that the taxon might be a species of *Corisa*.

3. *Notonecta minutior* Sulzer, 1776 and *Notonecta minuta* Gmelin, 1790 have priority over *Corisa nigrolineata* Fieber, 1848. However, to resurrect these long-unused senior synonyms would cause considerable confusion because *Sigara nigrolineata* (Fieber) is well known in the recent literature (for example, Bosmans, 1982, p. 49; Bernhard, 1985, p. 12; Savage, 1989, 11 entries; a further 14 references by 19 authors over the last 39 years are held by the Commission Secretariat).

4. The International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature is accordingly asked:

- (1) to use its plenary powers to suppress the following specific names for the purposes of the Principle of Priority but not for those of the Principle of Homonymy:
 - (a) *minutior* Sulzer, 1776, as published in the binomen *Notonecta minutior*;
 - (b) *minuta* Gmelin, 1790, as published in the binomen *Notonecta minuta*;
- (2) to place on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology the name *nigrolineata* Fieber, 1848, as published in the binomen *Corisa nigrolineata*;
- (3) to place the following names on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Specific Names in Zoology:
 - (a) *minutior* Sulzer, 1776, as published in the binomen *Notonecta minutior* and as suppressed in (1)(a) above;
 - (b) *minuta* Gmelin, 1790, as published in the binomen *Notonecta minuta* and as suppressed in (1)(b) above.

Note: *Notonecta minuta* Hungerford, 1926 (p. 14) is a junior primary homonym of *Notonecta minuta* Gmelin, 1790 (p. 2119). This case will be treated elsewhere by J. T. Polhemus.

References

- Bernhardt, K.-G. 1985. Das Vorkommen, die Verbreitung, die Standortansprüche und Gefährdung der Vertreter der Div. Hydrocoriomorpha und Amphibicorioromorpha Stichel 1955 (Heteroptera) in der Westfälischen Bucht und angrenzenden Gebieten. *Abhandlungen aus dem Westfälischen Museum für Naturkunde*, 47: 1–30.
- Bosmans, R. 1982. Distribution and ecology of Belgian Corixidae (Hemiptera). *Mededelingen van de Koninklijke Academie voor Wetenschappen, Letteren en Schone Kunsten van België*, 44: 21–60.
- Fieber, F.X. 1848. Synopsis aller bisher in Europa entdeckten Arten der Gattung *Corisa*. *Nouveaux Mémoires de la Société Impériale des Naturalistes de Moscou*, 21: 505–593.
- Gallén, O. 1787. *Donation Thunbergianae 1785, continuat. III*. Pp. 59–68 in: Thunberg, C.P., *Museum Naturalium Academiae Upsaliensis*. Upsaliae.
- Gistel, J. 1856. *Die Mysterien der europäischen Insectenwelt*. 532 pp. Dannheimer, Kempten.
- Gmelin, J.F. 1790. *Caroli a Linné Systema Naturae*, (Ed. 13). Vol. 1, pp. 1517–2224. Lipsiae.
- Goeze, J.A.E. 1778. *Entomologische Beyträge zu des Ritter Linné zwölften Ausgabe des Natursystems*, vol. 2. lxxii, 352 pp. Weidmanns, Erben und Reich, Leipzig.
- Horn, W. & Kahle, I. 1936. Über entomologische Sammlungen, part 2. *Entomologische Beihefte*, 3: 161–296.
- Hungerford, H.B. 1926. Some *Notonecta* from South America. *Psyche*, 33: 11–15.
- Reuter, O.M. 1888. Revisio synonymica heteropterorum palaearticorum quae descripserunt auctores vetustiores (Linnaeus 1758 — Latreille 1806). I. *Acta Societatis Scientiarum Fennicae*, 15: 241–313.
- Roemer, J.J. 1789. *Genera Insectorum Linnaei et Fabricii iconibus illustrata*. 86 pp., 37 col. pls. Henric Steiner, Vitoduri Helvetorum.

- Savage, A.A.** 1989. *Adults of the British aquatic Hemiptera Heteroptera: a key with ecological notes*. Freshwater Biological Association Scientific Publication no. 50. 173 pp. Freshwater Biological Association.
- Schrank, F. von P.** 1801. *Fauna Boica*, vol. 2, part 1. viii, 374 pp. Krüll, Ingolstadt.
- Sulzer, J.H.** 1776. *Abgekürzte Geschichte der Insecten*, part 2. 72 pp., 32 col. pls. Steiner, Winterthur.
- Turton, W.** 1802. *A general system of nature through the three grand kingdoms of animals, vegetables, and minerals ...*, vol. 2. 717 pp. Lackington, Allen & Co., London.



Jansson, A and Polhemus, John T. 1993. "Corisa nigrolineata Fieber, 1848 (currently Sigara (Pseudovermicorixa) nigrolineata; Insecta, Heteroptera): proposed conservation of the specific name." *The Bulletin of zoological nomenclature* 50, 121–123. <https://doi.org/10.5962/bhl.part.1815>.

View This Item Online: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/44546>

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.5962/bhl.part.1815>

Permalink: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/partpdf/1815>

Holding Institution

Natural History Museum Library, London

Sponsored by

Natural History Museum Library, London

Copyright & Reuse

Copyright Status: In copyright. Digitized with the permission of the rights holder.

Rights Holder: International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature

License: <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/3.0/>

Rights: <https://biodiversitylibrary.org/permissions>

This document was created from content at the **Biodiversity Heritage Library**, the world's largest open access digital library for biodiversity literature and archives. Visit BHL at <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org>.