

DRYMUS RYEII DOUGLAS & SCOTT, 1865 (HEMIPTERA,
LYGAEIDAE): PROPOSED RATIFICATION OF THE STATUS OF A
LECTOTYPE WITH A REQUEST TO SET THE NEOTYPE ASIDE.
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In their monograph of British Heteroptera, Douglas & Scott, 1865 (p. 197) described a new variety of *Drymus sylvaticus* (Fabricius, 1794) which they named *ryeii*. Douglas & Scott stated that the variety was 'first given to us by Mr E. C. Rye', but locality data were not given. No holotype was designated.

2. In his review of the genus *Drymus* Fieber, 1860 (date *teste* Kirkaldy, 1908, p. 189) in Britain, Le Quesne, 1956 (p. 338) considered *ryeii* to be a species distinct from *sylvaticus*. Le Quesne looked for Douglas & Scott's specimens at the British Museum (Natural History) and at the University Museum, Oxford and failing to locate original type material he designated a male specimen in the British Museum (Natural History) as neotype. At that time there was no indication of any of Douglas & Scott's Heteroptera collection being located elsewhere (*vide* Horn & Kahle, 1935-1937, pp. 60, 253, 333).

3. Following the publication of Hancock & Pettitt's (1979) list of collections and collectors in North West England I realised that part of Scott's Heteroptera is now located in Bolton Museum, and borrowed from there material agreeing with original description of *Drymus ryeii*. The material comprises two males glued side-by-side on a single card on the reverse of which is written in pencil 'E.C.R.[i.e.E.C.Rye] 3/4/63 Croydon'. The card is pinned, the pin bearing the labels 'J SCOTT J SCOTT' and '*Drymus sylvaticus* Fab var *ryei*' [sic].

4. I here designate the specimen on the left of the card, in caudal view, as lectotype. Both lectotype and paralectotype are conspecific with the neotype.

5. In compliance with Article 75f of the International Code of Zoological Nomenclature I am referring this rediscovery of the original type specimens to the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature to:

- (1) set aside the neotype designated by Le Quesne, 1956;
- (2) place on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology the name *ryeii* Douglas & Scott, 1865, as published in the trinomen *Drymus sylvaticus ryeii* and as defined by reference to the lectotype designated herein.

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- LE QUESNE, W. J. 1956. An examination of the British species of *Drymus* Fieber (Hem. Lygaeidae) with a new subgenus and an addition and a generic reassignment in the British List. *Entomol. mon. Mag.* vol. 92, pp. 337–341.
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