

PROPOSED USE OF THE PLENARY POWERS TO VALIDATE
CHERMES FUSCA ZETTERSTEDT, 1828,
A JUNIOR SECONDARY HOMONYM IN *PSYLLA*
GEOFFROY, 1762 (INSECTA, HOMOPTERA).
Z.N.(S.)2149

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I propose that the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature rule that the specific name *fusca* Zetterstedt, 1828, as published in the binomen *Chermes fusca*, is to be preferred to the specific name *fusca* Geoffroy, 1785, in Fourcroy, 1785, as published in the binomen *Psylla fusca*, whenever those names are combined with the generic name *Psylla* Geoffroy, 1762. The details of the case are set out below.

2. As *Psylla fusca* Geoffroy in Fourcroy, 1785, p. 224, described an inadequately defined species, the name of which can only be regarded as a *nomen dubium*. Moreover, only parts of Geoffroy's collection survive — the Coleoptera and part of the Lepidoptera — in the Musée d'Histoire Naturelle at Autun, and in the Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle in Paris. Another part of the collection, including the type of *P. fusca*, was deposited in an unnamed small museum in Paris (not the Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle), as ascertained from archival records by the curator of the Musée d'Histoire Naturelle at Autun, and was in very bad condition already in the last century. No reports on this part of the collection are available in the present century, and my search for it has been fruitless. Thus it appears nearly certain that the type material of *Psylla fusca* Geoffroy has not been preserved.

3. Geoffroy's description of *Psylla fusca* reads: '8. *P. fusca*. La Psylle brune à antennes sétacées et ailes nerveuses. Long. 1½ lig. Larg. ¾ lig. *P. fusca*, antennis setaceis laevibus, alis nervosis.' This, as well as his description of several other species of *Psylla* in Fourcroy's work, suggests a species of Psocoptera rather than PSYLLOIDEA, as was pointed out by Loew (1882). *Psylla fusca* Geoffroy, 1785, has eluded the attention of subsequent specialists and has not been recorded, even for the purposes of homonymy, in the basic catalogues of the PSYLLOIDEA (Oshanin, 1912; Aulmann, 1913; Klimaszewski, 1973), or in any catalogue of the Psocoptera.

4. *Chermes fusca* Zetterstedt, 1828, p. 552 was transferred to *Psylla* by Reuter, 1881, p. 160 and Loew, 1882, p. 239, independently. The binomen *Psylla fusca* (Zetterstedt) has been used unequivocally throughout the literature ever since. As a junior

secondary homonym of *Psylla fusca* Geoffroy, 1785, it should be replaced by its junior subjective synonym *Psylla perspicillata* Flor, 1861. This replacing was published by Lauterer, 1976, p. 115 with note, that he is simultaneously proposing to the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature to validate the name *Psylla fusca* (Zetterstedt) and suppress the name *Psylla fusca* Geoffroy, 1785. Otherwise, that name was not only not proposed as a replacement name for *P. fusca* (Zetterstedt), it was not so used on the only subsequent occasion when it was cited as a valid name (Reuter, 1876, *Meddn Soc. Fauna Flora fenn.*, vol. 1, p. 71). Otherwise it has been completely overlooked and was not even listed by Klimaszewski, 1973.

5. The binomen *Psylla fusca* (Zetterstedt) has been used for nearly 100 years in dozens of papers to denote a common European species (15 papers by a dozen authors are listed in the Appendix); its first junior subjective synonym has not been used as a valid name for over 100 years; its senior secondary homonym, *Psylla fusca* Geoffroy, 1785, is a *nomen dubium* which may apply to a Psocopteran species, and which should be prevented from applying to a species of the PSYLLOIDEA.

6. The International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature is therefore asked:

- (1) to use its plenary powers to rule that the specific name *fusca* Geoffroy in Fourcroy, 1785, as published in the binomen *Psylla fusca*, is not to be used in preference to the specific name *fusca* Zetterstedt, 1828, as published in the binomen *Chermes fusca*, whenever those names are combined with the generic name *Psylla* Geoffroy, 1762;
- (2) to place on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology:
 - (a) the specific name *fusca* Zetterstedt, 1828, as published in the binomen *Chermes fusca*, with an endorsement that it is to be preferred to the specific name *fusca* Geoffroy, in Fourcroy, 1785, as published in the binomen *Psylla fusca*, whenever those names are combined with the generic name *Psylla* Geoffroy, 1762;
 - (b) the specific name *fusca* Geoffroy in Fourcroy, 1785, as published in the binomen *Psylla fusca*, with an endorsement that it is not to be used in preference to the specific name *fusca* Zetterstedt, 1828, as published in the binomen *Chermes fusca*, whenever those names are combined with the generic name *Psylla* Geoffroy, 1762.

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