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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