

Who is the author of several genera of Coccinellidae: CHEVROLAT or DEJEAN?

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After the tenth edition of LINNE's *Systema Naturae* in which the genus *Coccinella* was described for the first time. *Lithophilus* (FRÖLICH, 1793); *Scymnus* (KUGELANN, 1794), *Chilocorus* (LEACH, 1815), *Coccidula* (GYLLENHAL, 1827), *Rhyzobius* (STEPHENS, 1831) appeared subsequently.

In 1837 DEJEAN published the 2nd and 3rd edition of his *Catalogue des Coléoptères* which bore the date respectively 1835 and 1837. As established by BARBER and BRIDWELL (cited by DIECKE, page 5), "the last part of the second edition... was printed from the same type as the third edition but at a later date.... The second edition was destroyed by fire, and the last part, which contains the *Coccinellidae*, was added to the second edition after the third was printed." In DEJEAN's *Catalogue* appeared for the first time the names of the following new genera: *Epilachna*, *Hippodamia*, *Anisosticta*, *Psyllobora*, *Brachiacantha*, *Hyperaspis*, *Cheilomenes*, *Micraspis*, *Synonycha*, *Chnoodes* and *Exoplectra*.

The name of the author following these genera is CHEVROLAT, and DEJEAN in the preface of 1837 edition declares the author and the redactor of the *Chrysomelidae* and *Coccinellidae* is CHEVROLAT. A description of the morphological characters was given later by DUPONCHEL (1841, D'ORBIGNY: *Dictionnaire Universel d'Histoire Naturelle*), REDTENBACHER (1843; *Tentamen dispositionis generum et specierum Coleopterorum*), MULSANT (1846: *Histoire Naturelle des Coléoptères de France Sécuripalpes*) and CHEVROLAT (1846-49, D'ORBIGNY; *Dictionnaire... 2nd ed.*).

WEISE identified REDTENBACHER as the first to give a description of the genera *Epilachna* and *Hyperaspis*, and concluded he was the author.

Subsequently entomologists as MADER, KORSCHESKY, CAPRA, DELLA BEFFA, GANGLBAUER followed WEISE, until DIECKE in 1947, applying the International Rules of Zoological Nomenclature, article 21, newly attributed the genus *Epilachna* to CHEVROLAT.

From this date CHEVROLAT was regarded again as the author.

In his 1976 Revision of *Coccinellidae* of Western Canada and Alaska, BELICEK attributed for the first time to DEJEAN and not CHEVROLAT the genera *Hyperaspis*, *Hippodamia*, *Psyllobora*, *Exoplectra*, *Epilachna*, *Brachiacantha*.

In 1983 A. RICHARDS, in a study of some *Epilachna* of the Australian region, about the attribution of the genus *Epilachna* to CHEVROLAT, states: "This interpretation is not quite correct. Because DEJEAN was the first person to publish and use the name *Epilachna* in print, although he attributed it to CHEVROLAT, he must be regarded as the true author."

From this moment the opinion of the Coccinellid specialists started to be confused and they opted either for CHEVROLAT (PÜTZ, MASSUTTI de ALMEIDA, FÜRSCH, CANEPARI), or DEJEAN (GORDON, FÜRSCH, CHAZEAU, SASAJI), or REDTENBACHER (GORDON).

In the third edition of the International Code of Zoological Nomenclature (1985), Article 51, Recommendation 51B is written: "If a scientific name and the conditions other than publication that make it available are the responsibility not of the author of the publication containing them, but of some other person(s), or of less than all of joint authors, the authorship of the name, if cited, should be stated as "B" in "A" or "B in A & B", or whatever combination is appropriate".

For these reasons and because the name CHEVROLAT is considered valid by many *Chrysomelid* specialists after the publication of DEJEAN's Catalogue, I think the correct attribution is "CHEVROLAT in DEJEAN" or more simply "CHEVROLAT".

I would appreciate the opinion of my colleagues.

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