

## The publication dates of Dejean's catalogues

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The great French entomologist P.F.M.A. Dejean produced four catalogues of his large collection of Coleoptera. All but the first of these are taxonomically important works because of the many new generic names that they contain. Unfortunately, their dates of publication are still not entirely clear even though many authors have commented on or otherwise dealt with them (Boisduval, 1845; Hagen, 1862; Kraatz, 1874; Sherborn, 1922; Woodward, 1922; Horn and Schenkling, 1928; Griffin, 1932; Schenkling, 1932; Barber and Bridwell, 1940; Blackwelder, 1949). Two problems remain. First, in what year, 1835, 1836 or 1837, was the so-called second edition completed? Second, what were the months of issue of the various fascicles that make up the catalogues? The months given by Sherborn (1922) and Blackwelder (1949) differ markedly (see Table 1). I now have new information which I believe finally settles the first of these questions. As to the second, the available evidence largely supports Sherborn.

Dejean first catalogued his collection in 1802, a very small work of eleven pages recording just over 900 species. According to Boisduval (1845: 501) "Cet opuscule, qui n'était pas destiné au public, serait complètement ignoré aujourd'hui, si M. Dejean n'en avait pas distribué quelques exemplaires dans les dernières années de sa vie." At the end of page 11 the date of this catalogue is cited as "An[née] XI.—1802 v[ieux] st[yle]". This restricts it to the latter part of 1802 as year 11 of the French Revolutionary calendar did not begin until 22 September.

During the years that followed, the size of Dejean's collection increased considerably as a result of his numerous entomological contacts, his extensive military travels, and three years spent in exile. When he returned to Paris in 1818 he began the rearrangement of his material and also embarked on a new catalogue. The latter was published in 1821, the date on the title page. The journal *Bibliographie de la France* recorded it on 12 May of that year. In addition to the catalogue proper this work contained a preface, from which the above historical information was extracted, a *Récapitulation* citing a total of 6,692 species, a list of authors, and finally a list of *errata*.

In the early 1830s Dejean began what he regarded as the second edition of his catalogue, ignoring that of 1802 which was unpublished. This was in response to requests from other entomologists after military and political commitments had forced him in 1831 to abandon his great work *Species Général des Coléoptères de la Collection de M. le Comte Dejean* with only five volumes completed (see preface to third edition of Dejean's catalogue, p. v). Originally, the second edition was to have come out in four fascicles but later this was extended to five. Fascicle 1 is dated 1833 on its title page and was recorded by the *Bibliographie de la France* on 19

TABLE 1. THE DATES OF DEJEAN'S CATALOGUES AS PROPOSED HERE COMPARED WITH THOSE OF SHERBORN (1922) AND BLACKWELDER (1949). THE DATES MARKED WITH AN ASTERISK ARE FROM THE *BIBLIOGRAPHIE DE LA FRANCE* AND ARE PROBABLY WITHIN TWO TO THREE WEEKS OF ACTUAL PUBLICATION.

Catalogues	Dates proposed	Sherborn (1922)	Blackwelder (1949)
<i>Unpublished Edition</i> (pp 1-11)	after 21 Sep. 1802	1802	1802
<i>Edition 1</i> (pp viii + 1-136 + 2)	12 May 1821*	May 1821	1821
<i>Edition 2</i>			
Fascicle 1 (pp 1-96)	19 Jan. 1833*	Jan. 1833	Mar. 1833
Fascicle 2 (pp 97-176)	27 Jul. 1833*	Jul. 1833	May 1833
Fascicle 3 (pp 177-256)	Apr.—Jun. 1834	<i>ante</i> Oct. 1834	Jun. 1834
Fascicle 4 (pp 257-360)	22 Aug. 1835*	Aug. 1835	1835
Fascicle 5 (pp 361-443)	end of 1836	<i>extremo</i> 1835	Jun. 1837
<i>Edition 3</i>			
Fascicles 1-4 (pp 1-384)	30 Jul. 1836*	Jul. 1836	Jan.—Feb. 1836
Fascicle 5 (pp xiv + 385-503)	27 May 1837*	early 1837	May 1837

January of that year. The second fascicle also was published in 1833 and was recorded on 27 July by the *Bibliographie*. In addition, the recently established *Annales de la Société Entomologique de France* noted this second fascicle in volume 2, 1833, with the new literature of the second quarter (p. xlii), the third quarter (p. lxii), the fourth quarter (p. xcvi), and in volume 3, 1834, with the new literature of the first quarter (p. xiv). The first of these, since it is before the date in the *Bibliographie de la France*, I do not accept. Possibly it referred to Fascicle 1 which the *Annales* did not record. The second coincides with the date from the *Bibliographie* and the last two are undoubtedly repeats. Blackwelder (1949) gave May as the date for this fascicle, probably on the basis of the first reference in the *Annales*.

For unknown reasons the *Bibliographie de la France* did not record the third fascicle. It was noted, however, in volume 3, 1834, of the *Annales*, first with the new literature of the second quarter (p. xxxv) and then with that of the third quarter (p. liii). The second of these is assumed to be a repeat. Fascicle 4 appeared in 1835 and was recorded by the *Bibliographie* on 22 August. It was not recorded in the *Annales* except in notes saying that publication was imminent. These were with the new literature of the fourth quarter of volume 3, 1834 (p. xciv) and the first quarter of volume 4, 1835 (p. xxxiii).

On 12 December 1835 a great fire destroyed all of the undistributed stock of Dejean's catalogue, along with many other natural history books (see volume 4, 1835, p. lxxxix of the *Annales*). As a result of this disaster the editor asked Dejean to republish the lost fascicles but in an updated version. This was the beginning of the *Troisième Édition, revue, corrigée et augmentée* as outlined by Dejean in the preface (p. v). The first four fascicles were published as a single unit, with the title page dated 1836. They were recorded on 30 July of that year by the *Bibliographie de la France*. The *Annales*, in volume 5, 1836, referred to the forthcoming issue of these four fascicles with the new literature of the second quarter (p. xxxviii), and then to their publication in the third quarter (p. liv) and again in the fourth quarter (p. civ). The date of issue given by Blackwelder (1949) for these fascicles, January—February 1836, does not fit with the above evidence. It also seems far too soon after the fire of December 1835, for the new, replacement edition to have been published.

The fifth fascicle of the third edition is dated 1837 on a new title page and "Avril, 1837" at the end of the accompanying preface. There is also a *Récapitulation* giving a total of 22,399 species, an index, and a list of *errata*. The *Bibliographie* recorded it on 27 May of that year. The *Annales* noted in volume 6, 1837, that Dejean had presented a copy of the fifth fascicle of his catalogue at the Society's meeting of 5 July (p. liii).

This leaves only the date of fascicle 5 of edition 2 unfixed. Kraatz (1874), Sherborn (1922), and Griffin (1932) all cited 1835 but there is no evidence for this. Although the *Annales de la Société Entomologique de France*, volume 4, 1835, twice stated that publication was imminent (pp. xlvi and lxvii) after the disastrous fire of 12 December it recorded that "La publication de la 5<sup>e</sup> et dernière livraison est retardée, l'éditeur faisant une nouvelle édition de ce catalogue, qui a été brulé" (p. cxxii).

Barber and Bridwell (1940) believed that the date of this fascicle must have been 1837. They based this on their discovery that, apart from some minor alterations, it was printed from the same type as fascicle 5 of edition 3, which they knew to have

been published in that year. However, this conclusion can now be shown to be incorrect.

In 1837 Erichson reviewed the entomological literature of 1836. Amongst this (p. 285) he included the “*Catalogue des Coléoptères de la collection de M. le comte Dejean*, von welchem im verflossenen Jahre die letzte Lieferung erschien, und von dem durch einem besonderen Unglücksfall schon eine neue Ausgabe nöthig geworden ist, in die der Verf. die ihm indess zugekommenen Bereicherungen nachgetragen hat.” In the following discussion he then mentioned several generic names in the fifth fascicle. From this it is clear that the last part of the second edition of Dejean's catalogue came out in 1836 and that Erichson had seen it.

Support for this date comes from a printed note on the inside front cover of fascicles 1–4 of the third edition, published in July 1836 which under the heading “Avis des Éditeurs”, states:

La cinquième et dernière livraison de ce Catalogue, actuellement sous presse, paraîtra vers la fin de cette année.

Cette cinquième livraison, qui terminera cet ouvrage, doit également faire suite aux quatre livraisons de la deuxième édition, détruite dans l'incendie de la rue du Pot de Fer.

Erichson's date of 1836 for the fifth fascicle of the second edition is thus fully in accord with the editors' plans. This note also explains Barber and Bridwell's finding that the fifth fascicles of editions 2 and 3 were printed from the same type. Again, it was the editors' plan that the type from the third edition be used to complete the second edition.

Unfortunately a new problem now arises. How could fascicle 5 of edition 2, published in 1836, have been printed from type set for fascicle 5 of edition 3, published in 1837? One possible explanation is that the last fascicle of the third edition was actually printed in 1836, as the editors originally intended. This is reasonable since this fascicle was “sous presse”, i.e. at the printers, when the editors outlined their intentions in July 1836. There was then an unforeseen delay. This was probably to give Dejean time to complete a preface for what was to be the definitive version of his catalogue. As a result the text that had been printed had to be set aside. But since there was no need for a preface to be included in the out-of-date second edition, printing of this continued on schedule, using the type from the third edition, as planned. Some minor changes were made (the page numbers, the signatures, and the number of species in the *Récapitulation* (total 20,909)) but nothing was done to eliminate two and a half pages of overlap between the end of fascicle 4 and the beginning of fascicle 5. This was caused by the type of the latter having been set for the third edition and not the second. It was presumably thought to be not worth the effort and expense to alter it. Also, the index and list of *errata* were omitted as they were not applicable to the second edition without extensive modification and were not essential anyway. There was no title page and old covers were used, the two that I have seen are dated 1834 and clearly came from fascicle 3. This make-do fascicle 5 was published, on time, in late 1836. When Dejean had prepared the preface for the third edition in April 1837, this was quickly printed, along with a new title page, and bound with the waiting 1836 text. This was then issued a few weeks later in May.

Some copies of Dejean's catalogues are actually recombinations of various parts of the second and third editions. These "hybrids" may have been compiled by early workers or by book dealers from whatever parts they could acquire. They should not, however, be taken as separate editions as was done by Griffin (1932).

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