

On the authorship of Xylocorini (Heteroptera: Anthocoridae)

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The name Xylocorini should be credited to Herrich-Schaeffer, 1850.

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Herrich-Schaeffer (1850, p. 84, 169) established the family Xylocoridae for *Xylocoris* Dufour, 1831 and "*Acanthia aliena* m." [= *Isometopus intrusus* (Herrich-Schaeffer, 1835)]. The type species of *Xylocoris* Dufour, 1831 (by monotypy), *X. rufipennis* Dufour, 1831 (junior synonym of *Lygaeus cursitans* Fallén, 1807) was listed in this genus; hence, identification of the genus by Herrich-Schaeffer was correct.

Reuter (1884) distinguished three tribes within the subfamily Anthocorina of the family Anthocoridae Fieber, 1836. He named them Lyctocoraria Reut., Anthocoraria Reut., and Xylocoraria Reut. Reuter's (1884) use of *Xylocoris*, as that of Fieber (1861), was actually a misidentification, because the type species of this genus and its congeners were placed in *Piezostethus* Fieber, 1860 within Lyctocoraria, and the single species placed by Reuter in *Xylocoris* was *X. ater* Dufour, 1833. The mistake was corrected by Kirkaldy (1906), who established a new genus *Dufouriellus* for *Xylocoris* sensu Reuter. As Xylocoraria Reuter was based on misidentified type genus, Van Duzee (1916) gave to it a new name, Dufouriellinae.

Carayon (1972) subdivided Lyctocorinae Reuter, 1884 into several tribes, among them Lyctocorini and Xylocorini (both monotypic) erroneously designated by him as new.

Stys (1975) rejected the name Xylocorini Reuter as based on misidentified type genus and credited Xylocorini to Carayon, 1972. He noted that this act contradicts to the Code, but considered it as the only reasonable solution. Restoration of Herrich-Schaeffer's (1850) authorship for the family-group taxon based on *Xylocoris* solves the problem in accordance with the Code.

An additional problem is the relative precedence of the family-group names based on

Lyctocoris and *Xylocoris*. According to Article 35.5 of the Code, 4th edition, the use of Lyctocorinae Reuter, 1884 with the included tribe Xylocorini Herrich-Schaeffer, 1850 should be retained, despite priority of the second name, if such use (though with other authorship of Xylocorini) is prevailing. However, the current usage is not uniform. Some American authors consider Lyctocoridae a separate family and place *Xylocoris* in Anthocoridae. I do not share this view, but consider that *Lyctocoris* and *Xylocoris* are not closely related and should be rather placed in separate subfamilies within Anthocoridae. If this will be accepted in the future classification of the family, the subfamily names Lyctocorinae and Xylocorinae will not compete for priority.

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