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PROCEEDINGS

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THE

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ORGANIZED MARCH 12, 1884

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NEW SYNONYMY AND GENERIC REASSIGNMENT IN SOUTH AMERICAN COCCINELLINA

(COLEOPTERA: COCCINELLIDAE)

Edward A. Chapin¹, Museum of Comparative Zoology, Harvard University

ABSTRACT—Coccinellina reflexa (Germain) is removed from synonymy under C. fulvipennis (Mulsant) and established as a valid species. C. fulvipennis (Mulsant) is placed in the genus Pseudadonia Timberlake and Pseudadonia chiliana Timberlake is placed as a subspecies of fulvipennis.

The study of specimens of the genus *Coccinellina* Timberlake from Chile has brought to light some interesting facts concerning the validity of the presently accepted synonymy. Some changes are proposed here and it is nearly certain that several other names in *Coccinellina* will have to be reassigned or placed in synonymy upon examination of types.

Coccinellina reflexa (Germain)

Coccinella reflexa Germain, 1854, p. 333; Bréthes, 1921 (1923), p. 454 (as synonym of *C. fulvipennis* Mulsant); Korschefsky, 1932, p. 510 (following Bréthes); Blackwelder, 1945, p. 454 (following Korschefsky).

Coccinellina reflexa: Timberlake, 1943, p. 15 (as synonym of C. fulvipennis Mulsant).

Bréthes, without explanation, placed *C. reflexa* in synonymy under *C. fulvipennis* (*C. rufipennis* Weise, 1898, p. 234, typ. err.). A careful study of Germain's description suggests that this synonymy is false. *C. reflexa* is described as 3 lin. long, (6.3 mm.); as having the pronotum without pale anterior margin and with a pale spot on each side of disc. The elytra are indicated as having pale areas adjacent to the scutellum and with the lateral margins very narrowly black. As far as is known to me, the maximum length of *C. fulvipennis* is not much greater, if at all, than 5.5 mm.; the pronotum is rather broadly margined in front with yellowish white; is without discal spots; the elytra have no

¹ Deceased, May, 1969, manuscript submitted posthumously.

trace of pale areas near the scutellum and the lateral margins are not darker than the rest of the elytra. Therefore I do not believe that

C. reflexa is a synonym of C. fulvipennis.

I have before me two specimens taken at Arica, Chile, March 23, 1966 by Senor Alfonso Aguilera P., which have the anterior margin of the pronotum dark between the eyes. Except for C. sicardi (Bréthes) they are the only specimens belonging to the genus Coccinellina that I have seen that have this character. The yellowish-white lateral marginal stripes are carried onto the anterior margin as far as the middle of the eyes and are there abruptly terminated. Other characters of these specimens are in accord with Germain's description of Coccinella reflexa, the lateral pale spots are present on the pronotum, the pale areas on the elytra adjacent to the scutellum are present though reduced in size, and the lateral margins of the elvtra are very narrowly black. The only departure from the description is in the matter of measurements. These specimens are 5 mm. in length, large for the genus, but not as large as stated in the description. Otherwise, the specimens agree so perfectly with the description that I do not hesitate to suggest an error in recording the measurements, or that Germain had before him an abnormally large specimen. Therefore I propose to accept reflexa as a valid species of the genus Coccinellina. Coccinellina was proposed by Timberlake (1943) for most of the Neotropical species then placed in Coccinella. One of the species listed by Timberlake was fulvipennis Mulsant.

Genus Pseudadonia Timberlake

The genus *Pseudadonia* was erected by Timberlake (1943) to contain the supposed new species *Pseudadonia chiliana*. Both genus and species are based on a single male specimen from "Southern Chile" in the collection of the U. S. National Museum.

Pseudadonia fulvipennis (Mulsant), n. comb.

Coccinella fulvipennis Mulsant, 1850, p. 101. Coccinellina fulvipennis: Timberlake, 1943, p. 53.

Pseudadonia fulvipennis chiliana Timberlake, n. status

Pseudadonia chiliana Timberlake, 1943, p. 53.

I have recently received two males of *P. chiliana* from Sr. Alfonso Aguilera P. of the Universidad del Norte, Arica, Chile. These were collected at Quebrada de Alvarado (near Limache), Prov. Valparaiso, by A. Aguilera and J. Lobos. One of these was dissected by me and the genitalia mounted for study. Preliminary examination showed that there was a remarkable similarity to the genitalia of *Coccinellina*

fulvipennis and at the same time no apparent relationship with other species of Coccinellina. Coccinella fulvipennis was transferred to the genus Coccinellina by Timberlake (op. cit.) apparently on the basis of the original description. An examination of specimens of that species from Canelo, Sept. 1950 and Peumo, Sept. 25, 1951 (both localities near Santiago), collector unknown, showed the presence of inflated tarsi on the fore and middle legs of the male. No specimen of the opposite sex is available for study. A very careful study of these two taxa (six specimens) failed to show any measurable differences in genitalia or in length-breadth ratios taken at various points on the body. The only difference noted, and it is a conspicuous difference though not to my mind a specific difference, is in the markings of the pronotum. P. chiliana has the black area on the pronotum emarginate on each side of middle in front with short lateral projections extending outward toward the pronotal margins. P. fulvipennis has the black area straight in front, the lateral projections very short, wide, or not present. From this study I conclude that the two forms are conspecific and that therefore the name fulvipennis (Mulsant) (1850) must take precedence over chiliana Timberlake (1943) in spite of the fact that chiliana Timberlake will remain the type of the genus. Since seven specimens (I have studied and made notes on the type of chiliana) are not adequate to determine the synonymy of two slightly dissimilar entities, I prefer to recognize the existing difference by placing chiliana as a subspecies rather than as a synonym of fulvipennis.

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