

**THE FAMILIAL PLACEMENT OF THE GENUS *HAEMATOIDES* FAIRMAIRE
(COLEOPTERA: DASCILLIDAE, BYTURIDAE)**

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Abstract

The genus *Haematoides* Fairmaire is moved from the Dascillidae to the Byturidae. The genus *Byturodes* Barber is synonymized with *Haematoides* **new synonymy**. The type species of these two genera, *Byturodes grahami* Barber and *Haematoides davidii* Fairmaire are also synonymized **new synonymy**.

The Dascillidae (including Karumiinae) are a phylogenetically interesting group of relatively basal Polyphaga, rendered taxonomically gridlocked by lack of synthetic work to bring together the many isolated descriptions that make up the vast majority of literature on this group. The only relatively recent paper on the classification of the group (Crowson 1971) does more to confuse the situation than clarify it, with many characters attributed to the subfamilies simply not fitting the included genera (pers. obs.), and some genera simply dropped from placement. In trying to bring some order to this situation, I have undertaken a revision of the genera of the subfamily Dascillinae (*sensu* Lawrence and Newton 1995). This involves an examination of all the included taxa.

Fairmaire (*in* Deyrolle and Fairmaire 1878) described the genus *Haematoides* for his single new species *H. davidii* from central China, placing it in the very broad Dascillidae of his era. *Haematoides* was placed in the more restricted Dascillini in the catalog by Pic (1914). Of the 8 genera included in Pic's (1914) Dascillini, 4 were removed to the Scirtidae (Lawrence and Newton 1995). The remaining four (*Dascillus* Latreille, *Haematoides* Fairmaire, *Pseudolichas* Fairmaire, and *Sinocaulus* Fairmaire) were included with *Coptocera* Murray (= *Cinnabarium* Fairmaire) and *Notodascillus* Carter in the current Dascillinae of Lawrence and Newton (1995), but *Haematoides* does not seem to have been examined since Pic's era. Examination of a male syntype of *Haematoides davidii* in the Naturhistorisches Museum, Wien (NHW), revealed that this species is not a member of the Dascillidae in the modern sense. Rather it belongs in the Byturidae.

Springer and Goodrich (1990, 1994) revised the Byturidae of Asia, and beautifully illustrated and redescribed *H. davidii* under the name *Byturodes grahami* Barber, which is the type species, by monotypy, of *Byturodes* Barber. Since the type species of *Byturodes* and *Haematoides* are synonyms, the following nomenclatural changes must be made:

Haematoides Fairmaire, **new family placement—Byturidae**

Haematoides Fairmaire 1878:116.

Byturodes Barber 1942:13. **New synonymy**

Included Species:

Haematoides davidii Fairmaire 1878:117.

Byturodes grahami Barber 1942:13. **New synonymy**

Distribution. China: Szechuen, Yunnan; India: Assam

Notes. In addition to Deyrolle and Fairmaire's (1878) record for central China, and Springer and Goodrich's records for Szechuen, China and Assam, India, a female in the NHW that appears to belong to this species (minor differences in pronotal and leg shape may be attributed to the species being sexually dimorphic, see Springer and Goodrich 1990) is from Yunnan, China, 50 km N. Lijiang, Yulongahen Nat. Res., 24–29 June 1983, E. Jendeck and O. Sausa. This locale is almost midway between the 2 widely separated specific localities reported previously.

Haematoides atriceps Pic 1910:45.

Distribution. China: Yunnan.

Notes. *Haematoides atriceps* Pic (1910) is retained in this genus pending examination of the type, expected to be in the MNHN, Paris. If it does belong in this genus, it should be easily distinguished, as Pic states it differs from *H. davidii* (brick red with reddish setae) in being black with purple setae on the pronotum and elytra.

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