

A supplement to the checklist of the New World chafers (Coleoptera: Scarabaeidae: Melolonthinae) with notes on their tribal classification

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Abstract

The checklist of the New World Melolonthinae published in 2003 by Evans is updated to 30 June 2005. Corrections and omissions to the previous checklist are also noted and necessary taxonomic changes are made. *Melolontha elongata* Fabricius, 1792 is designated as the type species of *Phyllochloenia* Dejean, 1833, **syn. nov.** thereby placing this genus as a junior synonym of *Dichelonyx* Harris, 1827. *Phyllophaga guatemalica* (Moser, 1918), **syn. nov.** and *Phyllophaga longiclava* (Moser, 1918), **syn. nov.** are placed in synonymy with *Phyllophaga ravida* (Blanchard, 1851). The Australian genus *Deutero-caulobius* Dalla Torre, 1912, **stat. nov.** is brought out of synonymy and considered the valid name for “*Phyllochlaenia* Blanchard, 1846.” *Warwickia*, **nom. nov.** is proposed as a replacement name for the junior homonym *Benedictia* Sanderson, 1939 (non Dybowski, 1875) and consequently, *Warwickia pilosa* (Sanderson, 1939), **comb. nov.** is a new combination for the single species in this genus. A brief overview of the tribal classification of Melolonthinae is presented.

Key words: Coleoptera, Scarabaeidae, Melolonthinae, chafers, New World

Tribal Classification of the New World Melolonthinae

The tribal classification of the New World Melolonthinae has never been considered in its entirety using modern phylogenetic techniques. In fact, the only publications that have ever considered the fauna as a whole are in the form of catalogues and checklists (see