



<http://dx.doi.org/10.11646/zootaxa.3666.4.7>

<http://zoobank.org/urn:lsid:zoobank.org:pub:4470BF7B-DCDB-4668-B221-600A9EDE11FA>

Taxonomy of '*Euconnus* complex'. Part II. Revision of *Archiconnus* Franz, *Parapseudoconnus* Franz and *Mexiconnus* gen. nov. (Coleoptera, Staphylinidae, Scydmaeninae)

PAWEŁ JAŁOSZYŃSKI

Museum of Natural History, Wrocław University, Sienkiewicza 21, 50-335 Wrocław, Poland. E-mail: scydmaenus@yahoo.com

Abstract

Neotropical Scydmaeninae *Archiconnus* Franz and *Parapseudoconnus* Franz (with two subgenera) are re-defined and details of their morphology are illustrated. *Archiconnus mexicanus* Franz is placed in a separate genus *Mexiconnus* gen. nov. (resulting in a new combination *Mexiconnus mexicanus* (Franz)). The current division of *Parapseudoconnus* into the nominotypical subgenus and a subgenus *Neuraphomimus* Franz is weakly supported by only minor morphological differences, but the subgenera are retained, pending further study. *Archiconnus huallaganus* Franz, *Mexiconnus mexicanus*, *Parapseudoconnus* (s. str.) *aberrans* Franz and *P. (Neuraphomimus) simulator* Franz are redescribed, while detailed redescrptions of *P. (N.) fraudulentus* Franz and *P. (N.) monticola* Franz were not possible due to partly or entirely damaged type specimens.

Key words: Insecta, Coleoptera, Staphylinidae, Scydmaeninae, Cyrtoscydmini, *Euconnus*, *Archiconnus*, *Parapseudoconnus*, *Mexiconnus*, *Neuraphomimus*, Neotropical, taxonomy

Introduction

In the first part of this study (Jałoszyński 2012) the morphology of the nominotypical subgenus of *Euconnus* Thomson, 1859 was described and illustrated in detail, to facilitate further comparisons and taxonomic studies on this largest and most challenging scydmaenine genus that currently includes nearly 2500 described species. Moreover, two Neotropical genera belonging to the '*Euconnus* complex', *Euconnomorphus* Franz, 1980 and *Venezolanoconnus* Franz, 1988 were revised and their morphology was compared to that of *Euconnus* s. str. In the second part two highly similar to *Euconnus* and problematic Neotropical genera *Archiconnus* Franz, 1980 and *Parapseudoconnus* Franz, 1980 (with two subgenera) are treated. To date it was even hardly possible to identify these genera, because their author gave only fragmentary descriptions and did not mention important characters of the body venter (Franz 1980).

Archiconnus was described to accommodate a single species from Peru, *A. huallaganus* Franz, 1980, as a taxon highly similar to *Euconnus*, especially to the subgenus *Napochus* Thomson, 1859 (Franz 1980). The label data of the holotype suggest that Franz initially intended to place *Archiconnus* as a subgenus of *Euconnus*. Diagnostic characters used to define the new genus, e.g. the shape of pronotum and its bristle-like vestiture or a broadened maxillary palpomere III seem to have rather little taxonomic importance. Later Franz (1994) described another species from Mexico and placed it in *Archiconnus*, probably on the basis of the aedeagi of both species, which indeed, illustrated in an approximately latero-ventral view, may seem similar (Franz 1980, Fig. 173 and Franz 1994, Fig. 72). However, Franz (1994) mentioned that this new species, *A. mexicanus* Franz, 1994, was placed in *Archiconnus* only provisionally and it was not possible to properly examine all important characters to support this placement. Differences in the general appearance between *A. huallaganus* and *A. mexicanus* are indeed striking, and a comparison carried out during the present study revealed further characters that differ beyond limits of an intra-generic variability.

In 1980 Franz described a new genus *Pseudoconnus* with three species placed in the nominotypical subgenus