NOTA / NOTE

Svataea nom. nov. for Lakhonia Descarpentries & Villiers, 1967 (Coleoptera: Buprestidae), non Lakhonia Yang, 1936 (Hemiptera: Pentatomidae).

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Abstract: Lakhonia Yang, 1936 (Heteroptera: Pentatomidae) and Lakhonia Descarpentries & Villiers, 1967 (Coleoptera: Buprestidae) have been found to be homonyms. The nomenclatural status for the buprestid is discussed and the replacement name Svataea Alonso-Zaraza & Roca-Cusachs nom. nov. is proposed for this genus.

Key words: Coleoptera, Hemiptera, Buprestidae, Pentatomidae, Lakhonia, Svataea, Meliboeus, Nalanda, new combinations, resurrected name, Oriental Region.


Palabras clave: Coleoptera, Hemiptera, Buprestidae, Pentatomidae, Lakhonia, Svataea, Meliboeus, Nalanda, nuevas combinaciones, nombre resucitado, Región Oriental.

Yang (1936) described the monospecific genus Lakhonia (Heteroptera: Pentatomidae) to place the new shield bug species Lakhonia nigripes Yang, 1936 from Lakhon (Malay Peninsula), which became its type species by original designation. For a discussion on the situation of this type locality, see Huang et al. (2015: 557). Rider et al. (2002) sinonimized the species Oedocoris eburneus Zheng & Liu, 1987 becoming the genus Oedocoris Zheng & Liu, 1987 a junior synonym of genus Lakhonia. This name is in current use in Pentatomidae (e.g. Rider et al., 2002).

In 1967, Descarpentries and Villiers described again another genus Lakhonia, this time for three species of Coleoptera Buprestidae (Descarpentries & Villiers, 1967), namely, L. coomani (Bourgoin, 1924) (from Meliboeus Deyrolle, 1864, type species), L. harmandi and L. tonkinea, the latter two as new species; thus, the genus is present in Thailand and Vietnam. This genus was synonymized with Nalanda Théry, 1904 by Ohmomo & Akiyama (1989). However, Kubañ et al. (2000) treated this name again as a valid genus in the subtribe Meliboeina under Meliboeus by Kubañ (2006), including Lakhonia, without any sound reason or explanation, an act against which Bellamy (2007) firmly complained: “Such wide-ranging genus-group name synonymy proposals are clearly beyond the scope of a strictly Palaearctic catalogue... Without including other genera that belong to the Meliboeus genus group..., the synonymies proposed by Kubañ (2006) neither remedy existing confusion or stabilize the
classification.” Consequently, Bellamy used *Lakhonia* as a valid genus in his World Catalogue of Buprestoidea (Bellamy, 2008). Despite this criticism, Kubáň (2016) still kept *Lakhonia* as a synonym in a lumped *Meliboëus*.

Both genera have been in use in recent years, even if they are homonyms. We align with Bellamy’s criteria and the World Catalogue treatment and consequently consider that *Lakhonia* Descarpentries & Villiers, 1967 (*stat. res.*) is an available name in need of a replacement name, since it is invalid because of homonymy. We propose as a replacement name *Svataea* Alonso-Zarazaga & Roca-Cusachs nom. nov. The new name is friendly dedicated to the outstanding Czech specialist in Buprestidae Dr Svatopluk “Svata” Bílý. Gender feminine. The species are transferred to the new genus name as **new combinations**: *Svataea coomani* (Bourgoin, 1924), *Svataea harmandi* (Descarpentries & Villiers, 1967) and *Svataea tonkinea* (Descarpentries & Villiers, 1967).

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**References**


