

*Pachystigmus* Hellén, 1927, a substitute name for  
*Noserus* Foerster, 1863 (Hymenoptera: Braconidae),  
not *Noserus* LeConte, 1862 (Coleoptera: Zopheridae)

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**Abstract.** By establishing the date of its first publication, *Noserus* Foerster, 1863 (Hymenoptera, Braconidae) is shown to be a junior primary homonym of *Noserus* LeConte, 1862 (Coleoptera, Zopheridae). The substitute name for *Noserus* Foerster is that of its subjective synonym, *Pachystigmus* Hellén, 1927 [type species: *Pachystigmus nitidulus* Hellén, 1927]. Other described species in the genus are: *Pachystigmus facialis* (Foerster, 1863) New Combination; *P. similis* (Szépligeti, 1896) New Combination, *P. nitidulus* Hellén, 1927, *P. gigas* (Tobias, 1964) New Combination, *P. occipitalis* (Belokobylskij, 1986) New Combination, *P. olgensis* (Belokobylskij, 1994) New Combination, and *P. sculpturator* (Belokobylskij, 1999) New Combination.

### Introduction

In 1862, LeConte described *Noserus* (type species *Nosoderma plicatum* LeConte (1859), by original designation and monotypy) for a North American Zopherini (Coleoptera: Zopheridae). According to a statement on page 286 of LeConte (1862), page 216, on which *Noserus* was established, was first published in March of 1862. Hardy *et al.* (1984) discuss the rather confusing method of publication for this paper, and support this dating. Therefore, and in the absence of any evidence to the contrary, under the provisions of ICZN (1999) Art. 21.3.1, the date of availability for this name is 31 March 1862. The genus was subsequently synonymized with *Phloeodes* LeConte by Slipinski and Lawrence (1999), but was resurrected by Garcia Paris *et al.* (2001).

Foerster (1863) proposed another genus *Noserus* (type species *Noserus facialis* Foerster, 1863, by original designation and monotypy) for a Rogadinae/Exothecinae (Hymenoptera: Braconidae). Neave (1940) noted the homonymy with *Noserus* LeConte, but did not act on it. However, ICZN (1999) Arts. 52, 53.2 and 60 require correction of the situation. Foerster's paper was published in the volume for the year 1862 of the "Verhandlungen des naturhistorischen Vereines der preussischen Rheinlande und Westphalens" (hereaf-

ter: "Prussian Verhandlungen"). This paper seems to be universally cited as having been published in 1862 (e.g. Dalla Torre 1898, Szépligeti 1904, Neave 1940, Hedqvist 1963, Shenefelt 1975, Marsh 1979, Whitfield and van Achterberg 1987). The fact that the two homonyms were both carrying the date 1862 required us to determine a more precise date for Foerster's paper, in order to establish priority.

### Results

The only applicable date given anywhere in volume 19 of the "Prussian Verhandlungen" is the year "1862" printed on the cover. The entire volume appears to have been issued at one time, there are no dividing covers to indicate separate printing installments. Proceedings of the two meetings per year of the natural history society that published the "Prussian Verhandlungen" were regularly included in each volume of the latter, as "Correspondenzblätter" with separate pagination. Each year, the "Correspondenzblatt" for the spring meeting contains a note on the production of the journal volume for the preceding calendar year. In the case at hand, this note is found on p. 42 of "Correspondenzblatt" No. 2 in volume 20 of the "Prussian Verhandlungen", reporting on the society's twentieth general meeting on 26-27 May 1863.

This does not give an actual date of publication for volume 19, but confirms that it was published, as one comprehensive volume, at some time in between the society's preceding fall meeting (on 13 October 1862 according to "Correspondenzblatt" No. 2, page 76, in volume 19 of the "Prussian Verhandlungen") and the May meeting of 1863.

In our first attempt to find an actual date of publication for Foerster's paper, we inquired about library receipt stamps. However, the copies of volume 19 of the "Prussian Verhandlungen" in the libraries of the Field Museum of Natural History (Chicago), Zoologische Staatssammlung (Munich), Zoologisches Forschungsinstitut und Museum Alexander Koenig (Bonn), and in The Natural History Museum (London) do not carry any stamp indicating a specific date of receipt.

It was the custom of some societies of the day to maintain their own library, and regularly report receipt of new publications somewhere in their journal. We therefore searched for such records pertaining to volume 19 of the "Prussian Verhandlungen", and have found the following. Volume 13 (1863), issue 1-2, of the "Verhandlungen der kaiserlich-königlichen zoologisch-botanischen Gesellschaft in Wien" (hereafter: "Vienna Verhandlungen") contains "Sitzungsberichte" (meeting reports; published with pagination separate from the research paper section) for six meetings of the society that had taken place between 1 January and 6 May 1863. On page 23 of this "Sitzungsberichte" section, it is recorded for the 1 April 1863 meeting that volume 19 of the "Prussian Verhandlungen" had been received since the previous meeting (4 March 1863). A search of adjacent volumes of the "Vienna Verhandlungen" showed that the "Prussian Verhandlungen" volumes were regularly received in Vienna at about the same time (late March to early April) in the calendar year following the one printed on the cover of the respective "Prussian Verhandlungen". In addition, we have found an entry in "Correspondenz-Blatt des zoologisch-mineralogischen Vereines in Regensburg," issue 5-6 of volume 17 (May and June, 1863), that records the receipt of volume 19 of the "Prussian Verhandlungen" (not all issues of this "Correspondenz-Blatt" contain lists of publications received, thus the period during which volume 19 of the "Prussian Verhandlungen" arrived at Regensburg cannot be narrowed down as much as with the "Vienna Verhandlungen").

Finally, the current editor-in-chief of "Decheniana," the successor journal to the "Prussian Verhandlungen," has confirmed (B. Moeseler, Univ. Bonn, pers. comm. to MS) that the "Prussian Verhandlungen"

for a given calendar year were always issued in the following year. Thus, volume 19 was published not IN 1862, but FOR 1862, and IN 1863.

While we have been unable to establish the precise date on which the name *Noserus* Foerster was first published, it is clear that it lies within the year 1863. Under the provisions of ICZN (1999) Art. 21.3, "the earliest day on which the work is demonstrated to be in existence as a published work is to be adopted as" its date of availability. At present, the earliest date that we can verify is 01 April 1863, the day of the meeting reported in the "Vienna Verhandlungen," making *Noserus* Foerster the junior primary homonym to *Noserus* LeConte. Even if volume 19 of the "Prussian Verhandlungen" had been published in 1862, its inclusion of records from a meeting in October of that year establishes without doubt that LeConte's work, published in March of 1862, must have priority over Foerster's paper.

Reversal of precedence under ICZN (1999) Art. 23.9 is out of the question here, because *Noserus* LeConte has been in use as a valid name after 1899 (and is still valid today). A substitute name is thus required for *Noserus* Foerster. In 1927 Hellén described the genus *Pachystigmus* (type species *Pachystigmus nitidulus* Hellén, 1927, by monotypy). Whitfield and van Achterberg (1987) have placed *Pachystigmus* as a junior subjective synonym of *Noserus* Foerster. Following ICZN (1999) Arts. 23.3.5 and 60.1, *Pachystigmus* Hellén, 1927, becomes the valid substitute name for *Noserus* Foerster, 1863 [not LeConte, 1862]. Thus, the current status of this genus is as follows:

### ***Pachystigmus* Hellén, 1927**

*Noserus* Foerster, 1863: 241. Invalid name, preoccupied by LeConte, 1862. Type species *Noserus facialis* Foerster, 1863: 241. Dalla Torre, 1898: 249. Szépligeti, 1904: 78. Neave, 1940: 346. Hedqvist, 1963: 33, 39. Shenefelt, 1975: 1150. Marsh, 1979: 176. Whitfield and Achterberg, 1987: 516.

*Pachystigmus* Hellén, 1927: 54. Type species: *Pachystigmus nitidulus* Hellén, 1927: 54. Neave, 1940: 517. Whitfield and Achterberg, 1987: 516.

Described species of *Pachystigmus* include:

*Pachystigmus facialis* (Foerster) NEW COMBINATION.  
*Noserus facialis* Foerster, 1863.

*Pachystigmus similis* (Szépligeti) NEW COMBINATION.  
*Discoletes similis* Szépligeti, 1896.

*Noserus similis* (Szépligeti), generic assignment by Papp, 1983.

*Pachystigmus nitidulus* Hellén, 1927.

*Pachystigmus gigas* (Tobias) NEW COMBINATION  
*Rhysipolis gigas* Tobias, 1964.

*Noserus gigas* (Tobias), generic assignment by Papp, 1975.

*Pachystigmus occipitalis* (Belokobylskij) NEW COMBINATION.

*Noserus occipitalis* Belokobylskij, 1986.

*Pachystigmus olgensis* (Belokobylskij) NEW COMBINATION.

*Noserus olgensis* Belokobylskij, 1994.

*Pachystigmus sculpturator* (Belokobylskij) NEW COMBINATION.

*Noserus sculpturator* Belokobylskij, 1999.

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