

SCIENTIFIC NOTE

A SECOND SPECIES OF *BEERELLUS* NELSON; THIS FROM THE OLD WORLD
(COLEOPTERA: BUPRESTIDAE)

The genus *Beerellus* Nelson (1982 Coleopt. Bull. 35(4)(1981):431–450) was described for a single species, *B. taxodii* Nelson, from Georgia and related to *Chrysophana placida* (LeConte). The following additional species must now be assigned to *Beerellus*.

Beerellus holzshuhi (Bílý), new combination

Chrysophana holzshuhi Bílý 1984 (Acta faun. ent. Mus. Nat. Pragae 17:5–7)

During a visit to Prague in 1990, I was able to examine the holotype and one subsequently collected specimen of this taxon. I was later able to compare the second specimen directly with the holotype of *B. taxodii* (USNM) which confirmed my belief that these two species are congeneric.

The type series of *B. taxodii* was recorded as having been cut from dead trees of *Taxodium distichum* (L.) Rich. *Beerellus holzshuhi* was recorded from *Cedrus deodara* when described. The fact that both species of *Beerellus* are associated with cupressine gymnosperms alludes to a very old relationship and one that certainly does not support the recent hypothesis of Hołyński (1993. Crystal, ser. Zoologica, no. 1, pp. 1–42) that *Chrysophana* and *Beerellus* should be placed in the conglomerate subtribal taxon *Bubastina* Obenberger. This new concept of *Bubastina* includes the traditional members, mainly Australian taxa, e.g., *Bubastes* Laporte and Gory, *Neobastes* Blackburn, *Euryspilus* Lacordaire, *Paratassa* Marseul, etc., and combines them with taxa placed in *Thomasettiina* Bellamy (Bellamy et al. 1987. J. Ent. Soc. Sth. Afr. 50(1):217–239; Bellamy. 1990. Insecta Mundi 4(1–4):81–86; Nelson and MacRae. 1994. Coleopt. Bull. 48(2): 149–152), e.g., *Thomasettia* Théry, *Jakovleviola* Obenberger, *Philanthaxia* Deyrolle, *Oaxacanthaxia* Bellamy, etc. Since there are no records for any of these or related taxa being associated with gymnosperms, it seems prudent to reassess the current definition and parameters of *Bubastina*. This will be attended to in an project currently underway.

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