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Comment on *Anaphes* Haliday, 1833 (Insecta, Hymenoptera): proposed designation of *A. fuscipennis* Haliday, 1833 as the type species
(Case 3554: see BZN **68**: 122–126; **69**: 140)

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Opinion 71, relevant to Case 3554, was not included in the submission when it should have been (the senior author of Case 3554 was unaware of Opinion 71 when it was submitted for publication). In Opinion 71 (*Smithsonian Miscellaneous Collections* **73**: 16–18, 1922) the Commission ruled that the species cited by Westwood (1840) as ‘typical species’ were to be accepted as definite designations of genotypes for the respective genera. The implication is that in addition to setting aside Opinion 729, as requested in Case 3554, Opinion 71 must also be set aside to clear the way for the Commission to vote on the proposed change in types species. The present Comment is submitted to address that important omission by adding item (1) in the list of actions requested of the Commission. It is worth stating that Gahan & Fagan (1923, p. 12), who noted both type species designations for *Anaphes* but did not select one in preference to the other, may yet not have been aware of Opinion 71, as it was published only a year earlier. Subsequent authors mentioned and referenced in Case 3554 also did not mention Opinion 71, though some of them explicitly favoured changing the type species of *Anaphes* to the only species originally described in the genus, namely, *A. fuscipennis* Haliday. In light of Opinion 71, their treatment of *A. fuscipennis* as type species of *Anaphes* is thereby given much less import. Their thoughts on the type species of *Anaphes* were not totally irrelevant, however, because they indicate the rather strong feelings of those involved in taxonomy of MYMARIDAE that *punctum* was not the most suitable choice for type species of *Anaphes*.

The advantages of changing the type species from *I. punctum* Shaw to *A. fuscipennis* Haliday are: (1) *A. fuscipennis* is an objectively defined and recognizable species and was originally included in *Anaphes*; (2) although Haliday transferred *I. punctum* to *Anaphes* the species remained unrecognizable since its original description – neither Haliday nor subsequent workers, except possibly Graham (1982), saw the type specimen and Graham, if he indeed saw the correct specimen (since lost), identified it as belonging to *Campoptera*; (3) Huber et al. (BZN **68**: 122–126) showed that *punctum* belonged to *Campoptera* and designated a neotype; (4) thus, if the type species of *Anaphes* is changed to *A. fuscipennis* no nomenclatural changes need to be made to the numerous (almost 200) species of *Anaphes* described since Haliday (1833).

The disadvantage of changing the type species from *I. punctum* Shaw to *A. fuscipennis* Haliday is: because the currently accepted type species of *Anaphes* (*A. punctum*) is actually a *Campoptera* species numerous nomenclatural changes will be required to move species now in *Anaphes* to the next available genus name, *Patasson*.

Because several *Anaphes* species are important biological control agents with considerable literature on them changing the name will be a nuisance and cause confusion not only for taxonomists but also biological control workers, even more so because *Patasson* has been used for a particular, well-defined subset of *Anaphes* and now would be used for all species of *Anaphes*.

In the interest of causing minimum disruption to and maximum stability in nomenclature the formal change of type species would be by far the best option because the advantages of doing so clearly outweigh the disadvantages.

The International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature is accordingly asked:

- (1) to use its plenary power to set aside Opinion 71, insofar as it applies to the type species of the nominal genus *Anaphes* Haliday, 1833;
- (2) to use its plenary power to set aside its previous designation (in Opinion 729) of a type-species for the nominal genus *Anaphes* Haliday, 1833 and to designate *Anaphes fuscipennis* Haliday, 1833 as the type-species of the genus;
- (3) to place on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology, the name *fuscipennis* Haliday, 1833, as published in the binomen *Anaphes fuscipennis* (specific name of the type species of *Anaphes* Haliday, 1833);
- (4) to amend the entry on the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology for the name *Anaphes* Haliday, 1833, to record that its gender is masculine and not feminine, and its type species is *Anaphes fuscipennis* Haliday, 1833 and not *Ichneumon punctum* Shaw, 1798;
- (5) to amend the entry on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology for the name *punctum* Shaw, 1798, as published in the binomen *Ichneumon punctum*, to record that it is not the name of the type species of *Anaphes* Haliday, 1833.