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Invalid and Unavailable Names in *Eupetinus* (Coleoptera: Nitidulidae)

G.A. SAMUELSON and NEAL L. EVENHUIS (J. Linsley Gressitt Center for Research in Entomology, Bishop Museum, P.O. Box 19000A, Honolulu, Hawaii 96817, USA)

David Sharp with, in part, Hugh Scott [1908, IV. Coleoptera (various). *Fauna Hawaiiensis* 3(5): 461–74] proposed and applied the same varietal name, *dimidiatus*, to various species of *Eupetinus* in the same publication. Applications of this name in 10 species are deemed unavailable to zoological nomenclature. The 1 application that was found to be available, *Eupetinus impressus dimidiatus* Sharp, is herein synonymized with the nominate subspecies.

Sharp explained (p. 461): “A curious variation occurs in several species, inasmuch as the black colour of the elytra and abdomen may be concentrated chiefly on the anterior parts, leaving the hinder portion of the two parts more or less clear yellow. In this variation the elytra are quite black in front and yellow behind; we have subsequently spoken of this form as var. *dimidiatus* (Pl. 14, fig. 20).”

Sharp clearly made *Eupetinus impressus dimidiatus* available. Under *E. impressus* (Sharp) Sharp wrote (p. 464): “Var. *dimidiatus*, var. nov. A series of about 20 specimens have the basal portion of the elytra dark—nearly or quite black—and the apical portion pale testaceous, the line of division between the two colours being not straight but irregular (Pl. 14, fig. 20). One specimen of this colour variety from Waianae is so aberrant that it may prove to be another species.” “The species varies so much in colour that it is not possible to treat this variety as a species; especially as a similar variation occurs in several of the other species, though in some cases not in so striking a manner.”

It is probable that Sharp had wished to anchor the varietal epithet to only 1 of the species. Anyway, the “var. nov.” assignment was applied only to *E. impressus*, which is also the species figured on Pl. 14, fig. 20. The varietal name is hereby synonymized.

Eupetinus impressus (Sharp, 1878)

Brachypeplus impressus Sharp, 1878, *Trans. Entomol. Soc. Lond.* 1878:135.

Eupetinus impressus: Sharp, 1908, *Fauna Hawaiiensis* 3(5):463.

Eupetinus impressus dimidiatus Sharp, 1908, l.c. 464. **New synonymy.**

Remarks. This varietal name was attached to a color morph of the nominate subspecies, and not to a discrete population, so it cannot stand to represent a geographical subspecies.

Sharp's and Scott's applications of "*dimidiatus*" to 10 other species of *Eupetinus* are interpreted here as descriptive, and have no nomenclatural standing in our opinion. They are listed below in order of appearance by species number. Each case is followed by the author's initials in brackets, if included in the original text: DS = David Sharp; HS = Hugh Scott.

- (1) *Eupetinus insignis*, sp. nov. (p. 461–62). "The . . . colour . . . which forms the var. *dimidiatus* of allied species, is here very marked." [HS]
- (2) *Eupetinus obscurus*, sp. nov. (p. 462). "Two male specimens show an approach to the *dimidiatus* form . . ." [HS]
- (3) *Eupetinus derasus*, sp. nov. (p. 462). "The color of the elytra is that of the *dimidiatus* form. We have only one specimen." The species is based on a unique specimen, so it could not also be a variety at the same time.
- (4) *Eupetinus subaper*, sp. nov. (p. 463). "In both sexes the specimens in colour vary considerably from light to darker, and some are of the var. *dimidiatus* form." [HS]
- (5) *Eupetinus impressus* (Sharp). [DS] See above.
- (11) *Eupetinus curtus* (Sharp) (p. 466–67). "Var. *dimidiatus*. In the Maui specimens this colour variety, described under *E. impressus*, is present in a strongly marked form in both sexes." [HS]
- (13) *Eupetinus sculptus* var. *parcus*, var. nov. (p. 468). "One specimen from Olaa and one from Kona are of the *dimidiatus* form." [DS]
- (15) *Eupetinus omalioides* (Sharp) (p. 469). "A few males approach the condition of the var. *dimidiatus* of allied species . . ."
- (18) *Eupetinus aper* (Sharp) (p. 470–71). "In a few specimens . . . thereby approaching the condition found in several closely-allied species . . . and most marked in the var. *dimidiatus* of *E. inaequalis*." Sharp synonymized *Brachypeplus inaequalis* with *B. impressus*, while placing the latter in *Eupetinus* (p. 463). [HS]
- (21) *Eupetinus dubius*, sp. nov. (p. 472). "Var. *dimidiatus*; this form present in both sexes." *E. dubius* var.? (p. 472). "A single male of the *dimidiatus* form from Oahu . . ." [HS]
- (24) *Eupetinus laevigatus*, sp. nov. (p. 473). "The var. *dimidiatus* is present." [HS]