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Comment on the occurrence of *Bisnius noualhieri* (Fauvel, 1898) (Coleoptera: Staphylinidae: Staphylininae: Staphylinini: Philonthina) in Moravia, Czech Republic

Komentář k výskytu *Bisnius noualhieri* (Fauvel, 1898) (Coleoptera: Staphylinidae: Staphylininae: Staphylinini: Philonthina) na Moravě, Česká republika

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Abstract. *Bisnius palmi* (Smetana, 1955), appearing, by a typographical error, as a synonym of *Bisnius noualhieri* (Fauvel, 1895) in Schülke & Smetana (2015: 1019) is confirmed as a valid species recorded from Moravia, Czech Republic. *Bisnius noualhieri,* recorded in error from Moravia, Czech Republic, by Vávra et al. (2017: 425) occurs only in Algeria and Morocco.

INTRODUCTION

I recently had an opportunity to study the publication Červený seznam ohrožených druhů České republiky – bezobratlí (Hejda et al. 2017). In the section on Staphylinidae, by Vávra et al. (2017: 425) I found *Bisnius noualhieri* (Fauvel, 1895) recorded from "Morava a Slezsko". Knowing that *B. noualhieri* is a species occurring in Algeria and Morocco, I was puzzled by this record. An extensive search failed to find a publication recording that species from Moravia, but there had to be a printed record that the authors of the section on Staphylinidae had followed. Eventually, I found the answer in Volume 2 of the Revised and Updated Edition of the Catalogue of Palaearctic Coleoptera (Schülke & Smetana 2015) and the matter turned out to be a story of three names, now in the genus *Bisnius* Stephens, 1829.

RESULTS

In 1955 I described *Philonthus palmi* as a new species based on one male specimen from Sicily, Italy (Smetana 1955: 224). The species was subsequently found to be a Nearctic species with a transcontinental distribution (Smetana 1995: 535), and the record from Sicily was an accidental interception of an introduced species. Vávra & Schillhammer (1993: 35) described *Philonthus hanae* as a new species based on specimens from Moravia (Břeclav), which was found to be identical with *P. palmi* (Schillhammer 1994: 73), but the record confirmed that the Nearctic species had become established in Europe. In the first edition of the Catalogue

of Palaearctic Coleoptera, Volume 2 (Smetana 2004: 630) *Bisnius palmi* is listed as a valid Nearctic species, introduced to Italy and Czech Republic, with *Bisnius hanae* listed as a synonym. However, something strange happened in the Revised and Updated Edition of the Catalogue (Schülke & Smetana 2015: 1019), where under *Bisnius*, we find the following:

noualhieri Fauvel, 1898b: 99 *(Philonthus*) **N**: AG MO
palmi Smetana, 1955b: 224 (*Philonthus*) **E**i: CZ IT **NAR**
hanae Vávra & Schillhammer, 1993: 35 (*Philonthus*)

Bisnius palmi is listed as a synonym of *noualhieri*, but distributional data are included, which is not done for synonyms in the Catalogue. So a typographical error which was unfortunately overlooked by the authors, caused the confusion! The entry was supposed to be

noualhieri Fauvel, 1898b: 99 *(Philonthus*) **N**: AG MO
palmi Smetana, 1955b: 224 (*Philonthus*) **E**i: CZ IT **NAR**
hanae Vávra & Schillhammer, 1993: 35 (*Philonthus*)

The conclusion is that *Bisnius noualhieri* is still known only from Algeria and Morocco, and the species occurring in Moravia is *Bisnius palmi,* with the synonym *B. hanae*.

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SOUHRN

Bisnius noualhieri (Fauvel, 1895) je výhradně severoafrický druh známý z Alžíru a Maroka. *Bisnius noualhieri*, ohlášený z Moravy, je ve skutečnosti *Bisnius palmi* (Smetana, 1955), se synonymem *Bisnius hanae* (Vávra et Schillhammer, 1993).