

Notas Nomenclaturales / *Nomenclatural Notes*

***Hypothenemus krivolutskayae* Wood, 1992, an unnecessary replacement name (Coleoptera, Curculionidae, Scolytinae)**

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In the framework of building the Electronic Catalogue of Weevil Names (<http://wtaxa.csic.es>) and the validation of names being included in it, the project team has spotted many nomenclatural problems at all levels. One of these is addressed here. In 1968, the Russian specialist Gali O. Krivolutskaya described a bark beetle (Curculionidae, Scolytinae) species under the correct name *Hypothenemus insularum* from the Kuril Islands of the Russian Far East.

The American specialist Stephen L. Wood replaced this name in 1992. His reasons, *verbatim*, are as follows: “*Hypothenemus insularum* Krivolutskaya, cited above, was given a neuter specific name in a masculine genus. When the gender is corrected, as required under the Code, this name becomes a junior homonym of *Hypothenemus insularis* Perkins, 1900, and must be replaced. The new name *krivolutskayae* is proposed as a replacement name, as indicated above.”

Wood’s argument is absolutely incorrect. The specific epithet *insularum* is the plural genitive of the first Latin declension substantive *insula*, meaning thus “of the islands” (reference to the Kuriles). As a genitive it makes no agreement in gender with its genus. Perkins’s specific epithet is the masculine singular nominative of the 2nd Latin declension adjective *insularis*, whose feminine form is identi-

cal to the masculine, and whose neuter form is *insulare* (and never *insularum*, this *-um* ending being the neuter characteristic of the 1st Latin adjective declension in nominative case). This adjective, which must keep gender agreement, has a similar meaning to the abovementioned genitive, albeit they cannot and should not be confused.

Since there is no reason to keep Wood’s replacement name in use, I consider it an “unnecessary replacement name” and reinstate as valid name *Hypothenemus insularum* Krivolutskaya, 1968, **stat. res.**

References

- KRIVOLUTSKAYA, G. O. 1968. Novye vidy koroedov (Coleoptera, Ipidae) s Kuryl’skikh ostrovov. Pp. 50-61. In: KURENTSOV, A.I. & KONOVALOVA, Z.A. (Eds.). *Fauna i ekologiya nasekomykh Dal’nego Vostoka*. Biologo-pochvennyj Institut. Vladivostok. 173 pp.
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