

## On the status of *Dienerella vincenti* JOHNSON, 2007 and *Dienerella elongata* (CURTIS, 1830) (Coleoptera, Latridiidae)

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### Keywords

Taxonomy, Latridiidae, *Dienerella vincenti* JOHNSON, 2007 (syn. nov.), *Dienerella elongata* (CURTIS, 1830), valid name.

### Summary

The name *Dienerella elongata* (CURTIS, 1830) is valid. CURTIS, 1830, gave a careful description and excellent drawings. The identity is supported by data on the original distribution of the species. *Dienerella vincenti* JOHNSON, 2007 is a junior synonym.

### Introduction

For many years in the past the name *Dienerella elongata* (CURTIS, 1830) was used worldwide by all entomologists for a wingless beetle living in decaying or mouldy plant remains, associated with fungi, in houses, etc., originally described as *Latridius elongatus* by CURTIS, 1830. The above given name is still recently used by many scientists for the beetle. I was often asked in the last years by entomologists, who can't understand, why I used the name *Dienerella vincenti* JOHNSON, 2007 instead of *D. elongata* and why this changing was necessary.

### Material and Methods

The results of this paper are based on the original description by CURTIS (1830) and on publications about Latridiidae by JOHNSON (2007) and JOHNSON & RÜCKER (2007). The british material used for the study was kindly provided by Dr. ROGER G. BOOTH, Department of Entomology, The Natural History Museum, Cromwell Road, London, SW7 5BD, UK (BMNH).

### Results and Discussion

The names *Latridius elongatus* CURTIS, 1830 (presently *Dienerella elongata*) and *Latridius*

*elongatus* GYLLENHAL, 1827 (presently *Corticaria elongata*) are primary homonyms. For this reason, the junior name was replaced by *Dienerella vincenti* JOHNSON, 2007. A new type was established based on Austrian material, not by a beetle from the place, where it was originally collected (Great Britain, vicinity of Southgate; New Forest). RÜCKER & POGGI (2013) already mentions, that this new description is doubtful, as CURTIS made very detailed drawings of the species, which allow to identify the species.

Two similar species occur in Great Britain, *Dienerella elongata* (CURTIS, 1830) (studied material: 1 Ex., 13.VI. 1982, Chiswich HO., leg. P. M. HAMMOND, det. H.-P. REIKE 2013, coll. BMNH, Fig. 1, genitalia: Figs. 2, 3) and *D. clathrata* (MANNERHEIM, 1844). *D. separanda* (REITTER, 1887) might also occur (BOOTH in litt. 2013). First, the species can be distinguished by the extraction of the genitalia. But it is possible to separate *D. elongata* from *D. clathrata* and *D. separanda* by the comparison of the elytral declivity. The sutural join is parallel in *D. elongata* and a little divergent and o-shaped in *D. clathrata* and *D. separanda* (RÜCKER, 1992).

In principle, JOHNSON was right. But he unfortunately neglected the fact that *elongatus* CURTIS, 1830 was in general use for more than a century: e.g. *Latridius elongatus* CURTIS, 1830: JACQUELIN DU VAL 1859, *Cartodere elongata* (CURTIS, 1830): BELON 1897, FAUVEL 1886, HETSCHKO 1926, HIRON 1961, PALM 1950, PEEZ 1967, REITTER 1875, REITTER 1886, REITTER 1911, REBLER 1980, WEIDNER 1971, WESTHOFF, 1881, *Dienerella elongata* (CURTIS, 1830): JOHNSON et al. 1988, REIKE 2001, REIKE & LIEPOLD 2004, RÜCKER 1983, RÜCKER 1992, RÜCKER 1998, TELNOV et al. 1997, VIK 1995).

According to the International Rules of Zoological Nomenclature (Art. 23.9.1.2.), *elongatus* CURTIS, 1830 should be maintained. This decision is supported by the fact that the homonymy does no longer exist: both species are presently classified in different genera.

Despite of the fact that type material of *elongatus* CURTIS, 1830 could not be traced and are presumably lost, there is no need for introducing a neotype. My friend WOLFGANG RÜCKER already made inquiries to get the type of the species from Melbourne, Australia in 2009 and 2010. He found, that there is a inventory list with six entries of *Latridius elongatus* CURTIS, 1830 (RÜCKER & POGGI 2013). The investigation of these specimens prove, that there are only specimens of *Dienerella clathrata* (MANNERHEIM, 1844). This is conform with inquiries of VINCENT in 1986 (VINCENT 1990a, 1990b, 1991 and 1994). But the species was accurately described and figured by CURTIS. Its identity is clear. Accordingly, the replacement name *Dienerella vincenti* JOHNSON, 2007 is placed in the synonymy of *D. elongata* (CURTIS, 1830).

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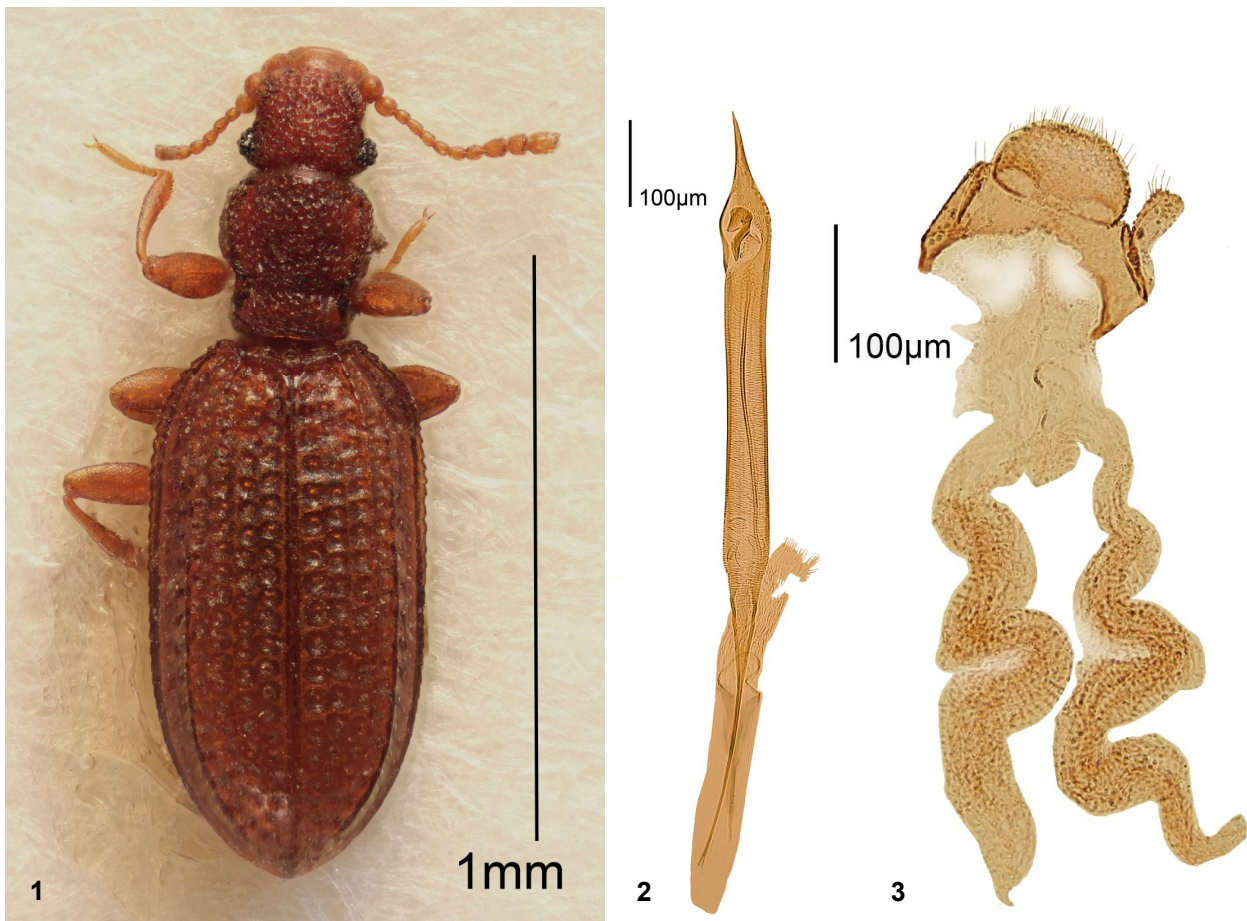


Fig. 1. *Dienerella elongata* (CURTIS, 1830) habitus (coll. BMNH)

Fig. 2. *Dienerella elongata* (CURTIS, 1830) male genitalia

Fig. 3. *Dienerella elongata* (CURTIS, 1830) female genitalia

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