

NEW SYNONYMY IN THE GENUS *POLYTES* STÅL
(HETEROPTERA: SCUTELLERIDAE)

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In a revision of the genus *Polytes* Stål (Eger 1990), I overlooked two previously described species. One of these species was originally described in the genus *Pachycoris* Burmeister, the type of which I examined recently while researching the latter genus. The other was an oversight of a species described in *Polytes*. The purpose of this paper is to rectify those errors. Measurements are given in mm.

Polytes discrepans (Uhler 1875) **New Combination**

Pachycoris discrepans Uhler 1875:282-283.

DIAGNOSIS. Dorsum black with red markings as follows: 4 evenly spaced macules on pronotum (lateral 2 oval, mesial 2 elongate, extending from near posterior

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pronotal margin to just anterad of cicatrices); cicatrices; two oval macules near lateral margins on anterior half of scutellum. Dorsal punctation concolorous, dense, most dense laterally. Venter entirely black, coxae and rostrum slightly lighter in color than remainder of venter. Posterior margin of last abdominal sternite lacking colored line or macule. Length 8.9.

Head very broadly rounded anteriorly; 2.1 long, 2.5 wide across eyes. Length of antennal segments 1-4 (5 missing): 0.6; 0.4; 0.5; 1.0, respectively.

Pronotum 2.7 long mesially, 5.4 wide across humeri. Anterolateral margins slightly convex. Scutellum 5.4 long, 5.0 broad at widest point. Pleura unmarked, densely punctate. Venter of abdomen densely punctate, less so mesially and on striated areas.

Posterior margin of genital cup shallowly concave mesially, convex laterally. Ventrally exposed portion of cup densely punctate.

TYPE MATERIAL. Holotype: male, labeled: (a) Peru, Orton. (b) PR Uhler Collection. (c) *Pachycoris discrepans*, Peru, Uhler. The type is deposited in the National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D. C.

Polytes discrepans resembles a number of other species in the *P. fenestra* Breddin species group (*P. bullocki* Eger, *P. bicolor* Distant, *P. lattini* Eger, *P. leopardinus* Distant, *P. speculiger* Breddin, and *P. ruth* Breddin) in having a broadly rounded head. It differs from all of these except *P. ruth* in lacking a large bilobed mesial macule on the posterior margin of the last abdominal sternite. There is a thin pale line on the posterior margin of this sternite in *P. ruth*, but *P. discrepans* has no pale markings on this sternite. *Polytes ruth* is also larger and is very differently colored than *P. discrepans*. The dorsal coloration of *P. discrepans* is most similar to that of *P. lattini*, but the head of *P. discrepans* is distinctly more broadly rounded than that of *P. lattini*, and the pronotal vittae are longer than those of *P. lattini*.

Because *P. discrepans* appears to be distinct from all known congeners, I opted not to dissect the unique male holotype.

Polytes discrepans will key to couplet 12 in the key by Eger (1990), but does not fit either option given for this couplet. The following changes to the key will allow recognition of *P. discrepans*:

Polytes speculiger Breddin 1914

- 12(11). Head broadly rounded anteriorly..... 12'
 Head narrowly rounded anteriorly 13
 12'(12). Pronotum with two large yellow to red macules, each with distinct brown to black lanceolate intrusion from posterior margin; larger, 9.5-10.9 long
 *P. ruth* (Breddin)
 Pronotum with four evenly spaced macules; smaller, 8.9 long.....
 *P. discrepans* (Uhler)

Polytes speculiger Breddin 1914:53-54.

Polytes quechuus Eger 1990:137-139, figs. 104-109. **New Synonymy.**

I overlooked Breddin's paper when researching the *Polytes* revision. His description clearly indicates the presence of an impunctate area on the pronotum, a diagnostic character for this species, and leaves little doubt that my species is a junior synonym of his. I have not been able to locate Breddin's types although one of the paratypes of *P. quechuus* was a syntype of *P. fenestra* Breddin, 1903, and was cer-

tainly seen by him. It bore no labeling to indicate that it was a type of *P. speculiger*, though. Breddin also described two varieties (as 'var. a' and 'var. b') and suggested that these may be synonymous with *P. bicolor* and *P. leopardinus*. The color forms he described were also seen by me and are apparently typical for *P. speculiger*.

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SUMMARY

Corrections to a revision of the genus *Polytes* are presented. *Pachycoris discrepans* Uhler is transferred to *Polytes* with a diagnosis and revised key to allow recognition of this species. *Polytes quechuus* Eger is placed in the synonymy of *P. speculiger* Breddin.

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