

Psallus anticus (Reuter) – senior synonym of *P. cognatus* Jakovlev (Heteroptera: Miridae)

I.M. Kerzhner

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The following new synonymy is published: *Psallus anticus* (Reuter, 1876), sp. dist. (not synonym of *P. perrisi* Mulsant & Rey, 1852) = *P. cognatus* Jakovlev, 1877.

I.M. Kerzhner, Zoological Institute, Russian Academy of Sciences, Universitetskaya nab. 1, St.Petersburg 190034, Russia.

Psallus (*Apocremnus*) *anticus* (Reuter, 1876), sp. dist.

Apocremnus anticus Reuter, 1876: 22 (non sensu Reuter, 1878: 118; Wagner, 1960: 348).

Psallus cognatus Jakovlev, 1877: 298, syn. n.

Reuter indicated in the original description of *Apocremnus anticus*: "capite maculis duabus magnis frontalibus...nigris", "femoribus seriatim et parum dense nigro-guttatis", "Long. 2 4/5 millim.", "Hab. in Russia meridionali, Dr Jakovleff". Jakovlev (1877: 278) precised, that Reuter had one specimen collected in Sarepta (now Krasnoarmeysk near Volgograd). The next description (Reuter, 1878: 118) significantly differs from the original one: "capite, verticis margine excepto...nigro-piceis", "femoribus fusco- vel nigro-rufis, apice eorum flavo-testaceis", "Long. ♂, ♀ 2 4/5 – 3 1/2 mm", "Hab. in Rossia meridionali!, D. Jakovleff, in Graecia (Attica!); D. Dr Krueper". Analysis of these descriptions and examination of Reuter's specimens has shown that two species were confused by him: *Psallus* (*Apocremnus*) *cognatus* Jakovlev, 1877 from Sarepta (original description) and light-coloured specimens of *P. (Hylopsallus) perrisi* (Mulsant & Rey, 1852) from Greece (later description). Specimens from Greece were marked by Reuter as types and one of them (from the collection of the Finnish Museum of Natural History, Helsinki) was examined by Wagner (1960: 348), who placed *P. anticus* in synonymy of *P. perrisi*. However, specimens from Greece cannot be considered as syntypes. The holotype of *P. anticus* is preserved in the Zoological Institute, St.Petersburg. It is labelled "145" [handwritten, on rose circle characteristic of Christoph's specimens], "*Psallus anticus* Reut. Typ." [written by Reuter], "k. V. Yakovleva" [in Cyrillic characters, = collection of B. Jakovlev], "*Psallus anticus* Reut. O.M. Reuter det." [species name written by Kiritshenko, the rest printed], "*Psallus cognatus* Jak. Kerzhner det. 1962". The specimen was in good condition in 1962, when I examined it, but later it was destroyed, only a fore tarsus, a middle and a hind leg

remained on the card. However, even these remnants are sufficient for positive identification. In the same collection there are also 2♀ from Jakovlev's collection labelled "Sarp." [in Cyrillic characters, = Sarepta] and identified as *P. anticus*, they also belong to *P. cognatus*. The name *P. cognatus* was used in the last 50 years in 18 publications by 10 authors, including 4 monographs. In the same period, *P. anticus* was used mostly as a junior synonym (after 1960), but at least Kiritshenko (1951: 204) and Stichel (1956: 288) used it as a valid name, therefore it cannot be considered a nomen oblitum. Lectotype of *P. cognatus* (designated here): ♂, labelled "Sarp." [in Cyrillic characters], golden circle "*Ps. cognatus* Jak. Reut." [handwritten by Jakovlev], "k. V. Yakovleva", "*Psallus cognatus* Jak. Reut. B. Jakovlev det.", in the collection of the Zoological Institute, St.Petersburg; paralectotypes: 4 ♂ from the same locality in the same collection.

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