

NOTA BREU

**Is the name *Sclerodermus* Latreille available from 1810, or 1809 after all?
(Hymenoptera: Bethylidae)**

**Després de tot, el nom *Sclerodermus* Latreille està disponible des de 1810 o 1809?
(Hymenoptera: Bethylidae)**

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Recently, Pujade-Villar *et al.* (2021) concluded that the oldest available name for a genus of Bethylidae was *Sclerodermus* Latreille, 1810, since that was the earliest use of a generic name for the taxon concerned, then considered by its author to be valid and accompanied by a description. It was concluded that the earlier use of *Sclerodermus* by Latreille (1809) was unavailable according to Article 11.5 of the Code (ICZN 1999) since the name was not then treated as valid, being considered to be a junior synonym of *Methoca* Latreille, 1805.

It has subsequently been brought to our attention that another of the provisions of the Code had apparently been overlooked, though. Article 11.6 states that a name first published as a junior synonym of a name treated as valid is not available, a provision supporting our original conclusion, although we did not refer to that Article in our paper. However, this is qualified by Article 11.6.1, which, somewhat counter-intuitively, provides that if, before 1961, such a name had been treated as available, that act made it available, and the name takes the authorship and date of its original publication as a junior synonym. Latreille (1810) treated *Sclerodermus* as available, thereby making it available regardless of any other requirements for availability, and Article 11.6.1 requires that its authorship and date should be considered to be Latreille (1809), as has actually been done by several other authors before 1961, and since.

The prime result of our earlier investigation, determining that *Sclerodermus* is the correct spelling of the genus name, as used by Latreille, is unaltered. The only correction required

is to its date of availability, 1809 instead of 1810. In summary, the correct generic assignment is thus *Sclerodermus* Latreille, 1909.

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