Comment on the designation of *Musca lancifer* Harris, [1780] as the type species of *Hydrophoria* Robineau-Desvoidy, 1830 (Insecta, Diptera), and proposal of a neotype for *M. lancifer* (Case 2858; see BZN 51: 28–30, 258–259)

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In his comment on this case Crosskey (BZN 51: 258–259) has suggested that a neotype should be designated for *Musca lancifer* Harris, [1780], the proposed type species for *Hydrophoria*, since Harris’s illustration (p. 126, pl. 36, fig. 59) is inadequate to distinguish the taxon by modern standards. As mentioned by Crosskey and by Pont & Michelsen (1982) no Harris specimens of this (or other) species are known. We agree with Crosskey’s suggestion, and propose that a male specimen in the Department of Entomology, The Natural History Museum, London should be designated as the neotype of *M. lancifer*. This specimen is labelled ‘England, Surrey: Bookham Common, Broadway North, 25.x.1969, A.C. & B. Pont’ and now, in anticipation of the proposal below, also ‘NEOTYPE ♂ Musca lancifer Harris designated Ackland 1995’. It is in good condition, and the diagnostic genitalia (which are exerted) agree with those figured for *Anthomyia conica* Wiedemann, 1817 by Hennig (1969, pl. 31, fig. 372). Hennig was unaware that there are original specimens of *A. conica* in the Naturhistorischen Museum in Vienna (Lichtenberg, 1979, p. 8). The proposed *M. lancifer* neotype is in accord with the established concept of *A. conica*, which was synonymized with *M. lancifer* by Pont & Michelsen (1982). As mentioned in the application, *Hydrophoria* has long been used in the sense of *A. conica* although this was not an originally included nominal species.

In addition to the proposals on BZN 51: 29–30, we ask the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature to use its plenary powers to set aside all previous fixations of type specimens for the nominal species *Musca lancifer* Harris, [1780] and to designate as neotype the specimen referred to above.

Additional reference


Comment on the proposed conservation of *Sicus* Scopoli, 1763 and *Myopa* Fabricius, 1775 by the designation of *Conops buccata* Linnaeus, 1758 as the type species of *Myopa*, and on *Coenomyia* Latreille, 1796 (Insecta, Diptera) (Case 2881; see BZN 51: 31–34, 259–261)
Anthea Gentry

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This comment has the endorsement of Dr Sidney Camras, the author of the application, who has seen and approved it.

Drs Curtis Sabrosky and Terry Wheeler have supported (BZN 51: 259–261) the proposals to conserve the names *Sicu* Scopoli, 1763 and *Myopa* Fabricius, 1775. However, both authors have pointed out that the rejection of *Coenomyia* Latreille, 1796 should not have been proposed in the application (cf. paras. 6 and 7).

Both Sabrosky and Wheeler have noted that the type species of *Coenomyia* is *Musca ferruginea* Scopoli, 1763, and not *Sicu ferrugineus* Fabricius, 1798 as stated in the application, and that *Coenomyia* is therefore not a junior objective synonym of *Sicu* Scopoli, 1763. The ‘*Sicu ferrugineus F.*’ included as the single species in *Coenomyia* by Latreille (1802), and cited as the type species by Latreille (1810), is a subsequent usage of *Musca ferruginea* Scopoli, 1763, which is not the same species as *Conops ferruginea* Linnaeus, 1761 (= *Sicu ferrugineus* of Scopoli (1763) and *Myopa ferruginea* of Fabricius (1775)), the type species of *Sicu* Scopoli. The name *Coenomyia* is in use and refers to a genus with a widespread Holarctic distribution.

A report on dipteran names (BZN 18: 9–64; 1960) prepared by the then Secretary to the Commission, Francis Hemming, erroneously recorded (p. 46) *Coenomyia* Latreille, 1796 as a junior objective synonym of *Sicu* Scopoli, 1763 and included it among ‘124 invalid generic names to be placed on the Official Index’. This error was corrected by Sabrosky in a comment published later in the same volume (BZN 18: 228; 1961), who noted that *Musca ferruginea* Scopoli was the valid name for the type species of *Coenomyia*. Sabrosky designated the same nominal species, one of those originally included in *Sicu* Fabricius, 1798, as the type species of Fabricius’s genus, rendering *Sicu* Fabricius a junior objective synonym of *Coenomyia* Latreille, 1796, as well as being a junior homonym of *Sicu* Scopoli, 1763.

*Coenomyia* should therefore not be rejected and should be placed on the Official List in addition to *Sicu* Scopoli, 1763 and *Myopa* Fabricius, 1775.

The International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature is accordingly asked:

1. to place on the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology the name *Coenomyia* Latreille, 1796 (gender: feminine), type species by subsequent monotypy by Latreille (1802) *Musca ferruginea* Scopoli, 1763;

2. to place on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology the name *ferruginea* Scopoli, 1763, as published in the binomen *Musca ferruginea* (specific name of the type species of *Coenomyia* Latreille, 1796);

3. to place on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Generic Names in Zoology the name *Sicu* Fabricius, 1798 (a junior objective synonym of *Coenomyia* Latreille, 1796 and a junior homonym of *Sicu* Scopoli, 1763).