



***Hathoronthophagus*, new replacement name for *Hathor* Deschodt, 2023, preoccupied genus-group name of a putatively myrmecophilic dung beetle (Scarabaeidae: Scarabaeinae: Onthophagini)**

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In November 2023, Deschodt & Sole (2023) proposed the new genus-group name *Hathor* Deschodt for a peculiar, putatively ant-associated onthophagine dung beetle from Gauteng province, South Africa. The genus is as yet known only from the female holotype of the species *Hathor spinosa* Deschodt, 2023. It was overlooked that the new generic name is preoccupied by *Hathor* Kirkaldy & Edwards, 1902, as regulated by the Principle of Homonymy (Articles 52–60 of the *International Code of Zoological Nomenclature* [henceforth the *Code*, Anonymous 1999]). *Hathor* Kirkaldy & Edwards is a monotypic genus of red bug or cotton stainer (Hemiptera: Heteroptera: Pyrrhocoroidea: Pyrrhocoridae) from tropical Africa, itself a junior subjective synonym of *Sericocoris* Karsch, 1892. *Sericocoris* is currently a valid genus (Robertson 2004; Stehlík & Jindra 2011).

Below, we explicate this taxonomy, and we propose a new replacement name for *Hathor* Deschodt in accordance with Article 60 of the *Code*.

Hemiptera: Heteroptera: Pyrrhocoridae

Genus *Sericocoris* Karsch, 1892: 132

Type species: *Sericocoris acromelanthes* Karsch, 1892: 133, by monotypy.

= *Hathor* Kirkaldy & Edwards, 1902: 168.

Type species: *Hathor zoraida* Kirkaldy & Edwards, 1902: 168, by monotypy [= *Sericocoris acromelanthes* Karsch, 1892, subjective synonym].

Generic and specific synonymies by Bergroth (1912: 316).

Coleoptera: Scarabaeidae: Scarabaeinae: Onthophagini

Genus *Hathoronthophagus* Stals, Daniel & Deschodt, replacement name

<http://zoobank.org/urn:lsid:zoobank.org:act:FEA50B91-DD24-4CB4-8B85-E86E99413453>

= *Hathor* Deschodt in Deschodt & Sole, 2023: 280 (preoccupied by *Hathor* Kirkaldy & Edwards, 1902: 168, in Hemiptera).

Type species: *Hathor spinosa* Deschodt in Deschodt & Sole, 2023: 282, by original designation.

Gender of new replacement name: masculine.

New combination

Hathoronthophagus spinosus (Deschodt in Deschodt & Sole, 2023), **new combination**.

Etymological note

The new generic name is a combination of the preoccupied name *Hathor* and of *Onthophagus* Latreille, 1802. The construction of the name *Hathoronthophagus* follows that of genus-group names coined by Balthasar in his pioneering disentanglement of the enormous and arguably polyphyletic genus *Onthophagus* (Balthasar 1935, 1959). Examples are the Oriental and Palaearctic subgenera *Gibbonthophagus* and *Colobonthophagus* proposed by Balthasar (1935) (but only made available by Balthasar 1963) and the mainly Afrotropical *Digitonthophagus* of Balthasar (1959). Various authors maintained this tradition subsequently—despite numerous exceptions! A selection of recently proposed Afrotropical onthophagine genus-group names with similar formation structure are *Hamonthophagus* Roggero, Dierkens, Barbero & Palestrini, 2016; *Jossonthophagus* Dierkens, Moretto & Génier, 2017; *Tiaronthophagus* Roggero, Moretto, Barbero & Palestrini, 2019; *Drepanonthophagus* Dierkens, 2022 and *Gonionthophagus* Dierkens, 2023.

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