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The identity of *Aulacophora pannonica* Csiki
(Coleoptera: Chrysomelidae)*

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Abstract: *Aulacophora pannonica* Csiki is a junior synonym of *Hoplasoma unicolor* (Illiger). The subgeneric name *Paraulacophora* Csiki, established for *A. pannonica* is a junior subjective synonym of *Hoplasoma* Jac.

CSIKI (1953) described a species *Aulacophora pannonica* from Hungary. Because of several characters setting it apart from other *Aulacophora* species he established a new subgenus *Paraulacophora* for it. The species was later mentioned by KASZAB (1962) as a species, probably imported from the Oriental Region, and it was listed by WILCOX (1972). No specimens in addition to the original ones have been recorded.

The description given by CSIKI makes it clear that the species cannot belong to *Aulacophora*. Perhaps most decisive is the structure of the last male abdominal sternite. In *Aulacophora*, as in fact in the whole subtribe *Aulacophorina* (WILCOX, 1972), this segment is trilobate, while in CSIKI's species it was entirely different, with an unbroken margin and a distinctly limited specialized area in the middle. Further the male had two long abdominal processes arising from the 2nd sternite. The abdominal processes suggest the genus *Hoplasoma* Jacoby, and CSIKI's description led in the key provided by MAULIK (1936) to the species *H. unicolor* (Ill.).

In order to resolve the problem it was necessary nevertheless to study the type that was sent to me from the Hungarian Museum of Natural History by dr. Z. KASZAB. I also received some specimens of *Hoplasoma unicolor* from the British Museum (Natural History), sent by Mrs. SHARON L. SHUTE. For the help thus received I wish to express my thanks.

A study of the specimens made it immediately obvious that they all belonged to one and the same species. Accordingly *Aulacophora pannonica* becomes a junior synonym of *Hoplasoma unicolor* (Illiger, 1800). This species has a range from southern and eastern India eastwards to Java, Borneo, the Philippines and southern China (Guangxi and Guangdong). There is also a record from Korea, but that one is considered doubtful (GRESSIT and KIMOTO, 1963). KASZAB's suggestion that the specimens seen by CSIKI were imported is therefore confirmed.

The type species of *Hoplasoma* is *H. apicalis* Jac. (MAULIK, 1936, WILCOX, 1973). *H. unicolor* has been included in the same genus by all authors during this century, and accordingly *Paraulacophora* Csiki is a subjective junior synonym of *Hoplasoma*.

* Contribution to the study of Galerucinae 13.

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