

Short note.

**Towards a revision of the Cypricerinae (Crustacea, Ostracoda) :
on the validity of the genera *Neocypris* SARS, 1901
and *Bradleycypris* MCKENZIE, 1982.**

by Koen MARTENS

Abstract

Neocypris gladiator SARS, 1901 is a synonym of *Acanthocypris bicuspis* CLAUS, 1892. Both species are the type species of their genus and *Neocypris* SARS, 1901 thus becomes a synonym of *Acanthocypris* CLAUS, 1892. *Bradleycypris* Mc KENZIE, 1982 is not synonymous with *Neocypris* and is herewith re-instated as a valid genus, quite different from *Strandesia* STUHLMANN, 1888, *Cypricerus* SARS, 1895 and *Bradleystrandesia* BROODBAKKER, 1983.

Neocypris* versus *Acanthocypris

CLAUS (1892) described *Acanthocypris bicuspis* as a new genus and species from Venezuela. SARS (1901) erected the new genus *Neocypris*, in which he described *N. gladiator* together with 5 other species from Argentina and Brasil. However, *Neocypris gladiator* has a carapace which is quite different from the other, more globular taxa described by SARS (1901), who was furthermore clearly unaware of the earlier paper by CLAUS, as he refers only to LUBBOCK (1855). Upon comparison of the illustrations of *N. gladiator* and *A. bicuspis*, it is unequivocally clear that both taxa are identical, which makes *N. gladiator* a junior synonym of *A. bicuspis*.

This has important consequences on the generic level. *Acanthocypris bicuspis* is the only species described in the genus and thus automatically becomes the type species. SARS (1901) never indicated a type species for *Neocypris*. KEMPF (1980) in his 'Index and Bibliography of non-marine Ostracoda' selected *N. gladiator* as the type species of the genus, "...as it was the first species SARS described under the genus *Neocypris*" (pers. comm. 10.11.1992). BROODBAKKER (1983), however, ignored this designation and selected *N. obtusata* SARS, 1901 as the type species (1981 : 361). This has created a substantial amount of confusion. Article 69 (a/vi) of the International Code of Zoological Nomenclature (Ed. 1985) states : "a subsequent designation (of a type species) first made in a literature recording publication is to be accepted, if valid in all other respects". KEMPF's designation is indeed valid in all other aspects. Firstly, *Neocypris gladiator* was the first species described in

this genus by SARS (1901), a valid argument used by KEMPF (see above). Secondly, the species agrees in all aspects with the original diagnosis of this genus. Thirdly, the fact that the species was already the type species of a nominal genus does not prevent it from being fixed as the type species of another genus (article 67k of the ICZN).

All this clearly implies that the designation by KEMPF is correct, which makes *Neocypris gladiator* the type species of the genus. As a consequence, *Neocypris* becomes a junior synonym of *Acanthocypris*. The validity of *Acanthocypris* itself will be discussed elsewhere, but it should be noted here that I do not consider the concept of subgenus adequate in this case : *Acanthocypris* should be either a separate genus or be considered a synonym of *Strandesia* s.s. ROESSLER (1986a, b, 1990a, b) in his excellent descriptions of South American *Strandesia*, does not mention the present problem.

***Cypricerus* in the Holarctic**

After the description of *Cypricerus* from South Africa by SARS (1895), various European and North American taxa have been allocated to this genus. The conspecificity of European and South African species has been questioned at various stages, but it was not until Mc KENZIE (1982) described the genus *Bradleycypris* (type species *Cypris obliqua* BRADY, 1868) that the taxonomic status of these European Cypricerinae was altered and that the geographical disjunction was translated into a phylogenetic distinction. BROODBAKKER (1983) subsequently rediscussed the position of the European Cypricerinae and correctly stated that at least two genera were involved : one for *C. obliquus* and one for the three other European species together with the majority of the North American taxa. For the second group, BROODBAKKER (1983) created the genus *Bradleystrandesia* and this genus remains valid. He further stated that *Cypris obliquus* actually belongs in *Neocypris*. Thus BROODBAKKER (loc. cit.) synonymized *Bradleycypris* Mc KENZIE with *Neocypris* SARS, which he

furthermore considered a subgenus of *Strandesia*. The species *C. obliquus* was thus transferred to *Strandesia* (*Neocypris*), the three other European species were relocated to *Bradleystrandesia*.

I now argue, however, that *Bradleycypris* should be reinstated as a valid genus, because of the following reasons. When MC KENZIE (1982) described *Bradleycypris*, he selected *Cypris obliqua* as type species, but based the diagnosis of this new genus on the morphology of an unidentified cypricercine species, of which we can now establish that it belongs to *Bradleystrandesia*. The core question of this problem is thus whether a genus is determined by its original diagnosis or by its type species. The answer is unequivocally given in article 61 (a) of the ICZN: 'The namebearing type provides the objective standard of reference by which the application of the name it bears is determined, no matter how the boundaries of the taxon may change.' *Bradleycypris* is thus objectively determined by *Cypris obliqua*, and this species does not belong in *Neocypris* (with the aberrant *N. gladiator* as a type species). *Bradleycypris* can thus not be synonymized with *Neocypris* and remains a valid genus.

Which additional species should be transferred to *Bradleycypris* remains the subject of a more thorough revision in the future. If we follow the opinion of BROODBAKKER (1983), then at least the five South American species described by SARS (1901) belong there. For the time being, however, these species are retained in *Strandesia* s.l. (see MARTENS & BEHEN, in press).

The tribe Bradleycypridini cannot be maintained as valid and will become synonymous with the nominal tribe of the subfamily, because morphologically *Bradleycypris* is closer to *Strandesia* and *Cypricercus* than is *Bradleystrandesia*. There is at present no reason to create a new tribe for the latter genus.

Conclusion

The correct combinations for the West European cypricercine taxa are :

Bradleystrandesia reticulata (ZADDACH, 1844)

syn. : *B. affinis* (FISCHER, 1851)

Bradleystrandesia fuscata (JURINE, 1820)

Bradleystrandesia hirsuta (FISCHER, 1851)

Bradleycypris obliqua (BRADY, 1868)

Bradleycypris (type species : *Cypris obliqua*) is characterized by a furcal attachment with a triangular eyelet in the main branch (Fig. 1A). *Bradleycypris obliqua* furthermore has oblique valves in frontal view, a claw-like proximal furcal bristle which is furthermore fused with the ramus and an apical seta on the second A2-segment with a swollen base; it is uncertain if any of the latter

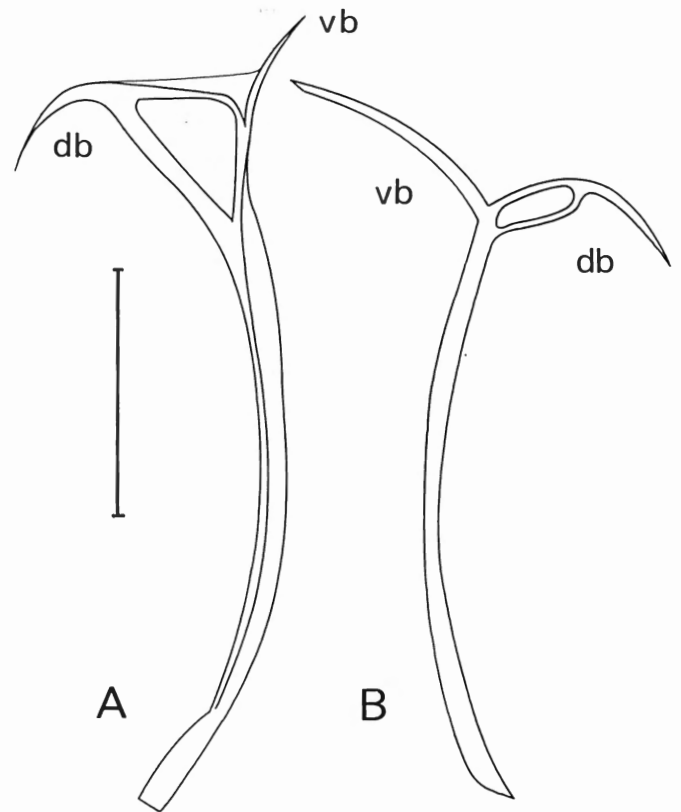


Figure 1 - Furcal attachments. A. *Bradleycypris obliqua* (Northern France, leg K. WOUTERS, no. W.1072B). B. *Bradleystrandesia fuscata* (Belgium, leg K. MARTENS, no. KM.523). Scale = 146 μm . (db= dorsal branch; vb = ventral branch).

features will in time prove to be distinctive at the generic level.

Bradleystrandesia (type species : *Cypris fuscata*) has a furcal attachment with a rounded eyelet in the dorsal branch (Fig. 1B). Its three European species have symmetrically positioned valves in frontal view, a normal proximal furcal bristle and an apical seta on the second A2-segment without a swollen base.

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Koen MARTENS
Koninklijk Belgisch Instituut
voor Natuurwetenschappen,
afdeling Zoetwaterbiologie
(Royal Belgian Institute
of Natural Sciences,
Freshwater Biology)
Vautierstraat 29
B-1040 Brussel
Belgium