More comments on *Amphyginus* Haliday, 1841 (Coleoptera, Carabidae, *Calathus*)

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In a recent note Alonso-Zarazaga (2006) stated correctly that *Amphyginus* Haliday, 1843 has been misspelt in both the Iberian (Serrano, 2003) and the Palearctic (Hovorka & Sciaky, 2003) catalogues of Carabidae. Serrano wrongly used *Amphigynus* following the criterion of Lorenz (1998), but curiously this last author corrected himself in the second edition of his *Nomina Carabidarum* (Lorenz, 2005) and spelt *Amphyginus* correctly. It is therefore to be expected that the second edition of the Palearctic catalogue will also rectify the error so that all these works will become correct sources for this correct name.

*Amphyginus* is a taxon erected on the basis of a probable autapomorphy for the genus *Calathus*, the lack of male dilated protarsomeres shown by a single species, *C. rotundicollis* Dejean, 1828. Its validity was accepted by Lindroth (1974), Freude (1976) and Hovorka & Sciaky (2003) among other authors, but not by Jeannel (1941) and authors that published catalogues of the Iberian fauna (Zaballos & Jeanne, 1994; Serrano, 2003) or revised the Iberian taxa (Gañán & Novoa, 2005). In these last two papers *Amphyginus* was synonymized with *Neocalathus* Ball & Nègre, an incorrect decision because *Amphyginus* clearly has precedence (Alonso-Zarazaga, 2006). The recent molecular study of Ruiz & Serrano (2006) on the genus *Calathus* has clarified the controversy as *Amphyginus* seems to be a valid taxon well differentiated from *Neocalathus*. It is related to the *depressus*-group inhabiting Tenerife and appears more distantly related to the *melanocephalus* species-group of *Neocalathus*.

The molecular study has also shown that *Amphyginus* includes only the type species *C. rotundicollis* Dejean, 1828. The recent Palearctic catalogue mentioned above includes the Iberian species *C. rotundatus* Jacquelin du Val, 1857 in this subgenus, but the supposed close relatedness between both species is not warranted on molecular grounds (Ruiz & Serrano, 2006). Furthermore, Toribio (2006) has created the monobasic subgenus *Iberocalathus* to include *C. rotundatus* on a morphological and geographic basis. Hence, this new subgenus should be included in future editions of the catalogues mentioned above.

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References


