

## A new synonym of *Hypomeces pulviger* (Herbst, 1795) (Coleoptera, Curculionidae) from China

## Новый синоним *Hypomeces pulviger* (Herbst, 1795) (Coleoptera, Curculionidae) из Китая

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**Key words:** Curculionoidea, Entiminae, Tanymecini, new synonym.

**Ключевые слова:** Curculionoidea, Entiminae, Танымецини, новый синоним.

**Abstract.** *Hypomeces fushunensis* Hong, 2002, **syn.n.** is synonymized under *Hypomeces pulviger* (Herbst, 1795) on the basis of erroneous identification of a recent species within an artificial «amber» amulet as Eocene amber inclusion.

**Резюме.** В статье вид, описанный из янтаря, *Hypomeces fushunensis* Hong, 2002, **syn.n.** синонимизирован с современным видом *Hypomeces pulviger* (Herbst, 1795) на основании ошибочного определения вида из амулета, изготовленного в настоящее время и содержащего внутри собранный ныне экземпляр, в качестве ископаемого эоценового.

### Introduction

The genus *Hypomeces* Schoenherr, 1823 belongs to the subtribe Piazomiina of the tribe Tanymecini and includes approximately ten species distributed in the Oriental region [Marshall, 1916; Günther, Zumpt, 1933; Alonso-Zarazaga, Lyal, 1999]. This genus differs from the similar genera in the metatibial corbels covered with scales, pronotum with transverse impression, prosternum with a bifid prominence behind the procoxae, trochanter with a single long erect bristle; ninth and tenth antennomeres subequal in length [Marshall, 1916].

*Hypomeces fushunensis* Hong, 2002 was described from Fushun amber [Hong, 2002] (China: Liaoning Province, Fushun coal mine in Fushun City, south of Hunhe River; Lower Eocene, Guchengdizi Formation) [Legalov, 2015]. This record was considered the earliest for the tribe Tanymecini [Legalov, 2015]. This large specimen (18.8 mm) in amber was very well preserved, without damage and with clearly visible bright scales [Hong, 2002: Plate 11, Fig. 1]. Usually medium and large insects are partially destroyed. *Hypomeces fushunensis* also had no differences from the recent *H. pulviger* (Herbst, 1795). It was strange.

The author was able to find the article dedicated to «Insects of curative properties used in Chinese medi-

cine» [Alin, 1953]. In this work, it was written that «artificial amber with inclusions of *Hypomeces squamosus* (Fabricius, 1792) = *H. pulviger* is used for heart diseases, to calm the nervous system and improve brain activity» [Alin, 1953: P.7, Fig.7]. Considering the state of inclusion, there is no doubt that this is recently made amulet with *H. pulviger* but not Eocene amber inclusion.

### Materials and methods

The *Hypomeces* specimens studied are deposited in the Institute of Systematics and Ecology of Animals, Novosibirsk, Russia.

### Results

Curculionoidea:  
Curculionidae:  
Entiminae:  
Tanymecini:  
Piazomina

#### *Hypomeces* Schoenherr, 1823

Type species: *Curculio squamosus* Fabricius, 1792 (= *Curculio pulviger* Herbst, 1795) by original designation.

*Hypomeces pulviger* (Herbst, 1795)  
= *Curculio pulverulentus* Fabricius, 1792;  
= *Curculio squamosus* Fabricius, 1792;  
= *Curculio aurulentus* Herbst, 1797;  
= *Curculio orientalis* Olivier, 1807;  
= *Hypomeces auricephalus* Faust, 1893;  
= *Hypomeces fabricii* Faust, 1893;  
= *Hypomeces dispar* Faust, 1894;  
= *Atmetonychus gossypii* Matsumura, 1915;  
= *Hypomeces fushunensis* Hong, 2002, **syn.n.**

**Diagnosis.** *Hypomeces fushunensis* Hong, 2002, **syn.n.** has no differences with *H. pulviger* (Herbst, 1795) and is synonymized as junior synonym in the present paper. The

«amber piece» considered in the paper by Hong [2022] is not Eocene amber, but is recently made from artificial amber amulet with a modern species inside.

**Distribution.** South Korea, Japan, China (including Taiwan), Pakistan, India, Vietnam, Thailand, Myanmar, Cambodia, Indonesia (Java, Sumatra), Malaysia (including Kalimantan), and the Philippines [Marshall, 1916; Günther, Zumpt, 1933; Ahmed, Legalov, 2015; Alonso-Zarazaga et al., 2023].

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