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The South African bee *Capicola diversipes* Cockerell, 1932 is a junior synonym of *Samba* (*Haplomelitta*) *ogilviei* (Cockerell, 1932) (Hymenoptera: Melittidae)

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Abstract. The South African bee *Capicola diversipes* Cockerell, 1932, is currently placed in the genus *Scrapter* Lepeletier & Serville. However, examination of the holotype reveals that it is a junior synonym of *Samba* (*Haplomelitta*) *ogilviei* (Cockerell, 1932). This synonym is formally established in this contribution.

INTRODUCTION

The bee genus *Samba* Friese (Hymenoptera: Melittidae) is endemic to the Afrotropical region and was revised by Michez *et al*. (2010). In the course of the revision, *Capicola diversipes* Cockerell, 1932a (as *Haplomelitta diversipes*; Michez *et al*. 2010: 336, under "Included species") was transferred to the genus *Scrapter* Lepeletier & Serville (Colletidae) with the following justification: "The study of the type series of *Haplomelitta diversipes* (Cockerell) revealed that this species belongs to the genus *Scrapter* (Colletidae)".

Recently, Cory Sheffield, Royal Saskatchewan Museum (Regina, Canada), correctly and thankfully pointed out to one of us (MK) that the species does not appear in the *Scrapter* checklist (Kuhlmann, 2021). After a review of the case and examination of the holotype, it turned out that the transfer of *C. diversipes* to *Scrapter* was unjustified, as neither a type series of *C. diversipes* exists (just the holotype), nor is it a *Scrapter* species. The error is corrected here and the taxonomic status of *C. diversipes* is clarified.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

A Zeiss Stemi 508 stereomicroscope (Carl Zeiss AG, Oberkochen, Germany) was used for specimen examination. High-resolution images were taken with a Keyence VHX-5000 Digital Microscope using the VH-Z20R/Z20T (20x to 200x) zoom lens and the OP-42305 super diffused illumination adapter. Images were stacked for extended depth-of-field and processed using Adobe Photoshop Elements 2021 (Adobe Systems Software Ireland Limited, Republic of Ireland).

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SYSTEMATICS

Samba (*Haplomelitta*) *ogilviei* (Cockerell, 1932a)
Rhinochaetula ogilviei Cockerell, 1932a: 454–455.
Capicola diversipes Cockerell, 1932b: 175–176. **Syn. nov.**
(Figs. 1–3)

The examination of the holotype of *C. diversipes* showed that it is undoubtedly conspecific with *S. ogilviei* (Cockerell, 1932a). The holotype is in fair condition (left forewing missing, color faded) (Figs. 1, 2) and agrees with the description. Interestingly, the type specimens of both taxa were collected at the same place and date by the same collectors: *Rhinochaetula ogilviei*: "Cape Province: Nieuwoudtville, November 20-22 (J.O., L.O., Ckll.)" (Cockerell, 1932a). *Capicola diversipes*: "Cape Province: Nieuwoudtville, November 22 (J.O.)" (Cockerell, 1932b) (all labels of the type specimen in Fig. 3). Both names were published in subsequent volumes of the Annals and Magazine of Natural History giving *R. ogilviei* precedence over *C. diversipes*. Donald Baker recognized the correct taxonomy, both generic assignment and synonymy.

Discussion. *Capicola diversipes* is clearly not a *Scrapter* species (Colletidae), but instead a melittid bee of the genus *Samba* as redescribed by Michez *et al*. (2010) (*i.e*., pointed glossa, short galea, all labial palpus segments with similar length, head wider than long, wing shape, enlarged hind basitarsus, terga generally without apical hair bands; Figs. 1, 2). It is therefore unclear how the described erroneous transfer of the species to *Scrapter* happened in Michez *et al*. (2010). There may have been confusion with a superficially similar-looking and named male *Scrapter* with modified legs. Fortunately, *C. diversipes* turned out to be a junior synonym, so that it was not necessary to rename a valid species.

Figures 1–3. Male holotype of *Capicola diversipes* Cockerell, 1932b. **1**. Dorsal habitus. **2**. Lateral habitus (Photos M. Kuhlmann). **3.** Specimen labels and dissected male terminalia preserved in microvial visible on the right. The holotype is housed in the Natural History Museum London, UK. (Photo A. Mack).

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