

NOTE

THE TAXONOMIC STATUS OF PORTACHORUTES WRAY
(COLLEMBOLA: NEANURIDAE)

The genus *Portachorutes* was erected by Wray (1953, J. Agr. Univ. P. R. 37: 140-150) for the Puerto Rican species *Portachorutes mambatus*.

Massoud (1967, Biol. Amer. Australe. 3: 1-399) and Rapoport (1971, Pacif. Ins. Mon. 25: 99-118) regarded this monotypic genus as of dubious taxonomic status. The former author omitted the genus from his monograph of the Neanuridae (first reference above). On the other hand, Salmon (1964, Bull. Roy. Soc. New Zealand. 7: 1-651) and Mari Mutt (1976, J. Agr. Univ. P. R. 60: 113-128) regarded the genus as valid.

A detailed study of specimens collected in Puerto Rico has shown that *Portachorutes* is a synonym of the genus *Arlesia* Handschin (1942, Ver. Naturf. Ges., Basle. 53: 265-284) since *P. mambatus* is a synonym of *A. albipes* Folsom (1927, Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus. 72: 1-16), the type species of *Arlesia*. The Puerto Rican specimens, in addition, fit well the redescription of the latter species furnished by Denis (1931, Boll. Lab. Zool. Portici 25: 69-170) and Massoud (1963, Stud. Fauna Surinam and other Guyanas. 6: 43-51).

Due to the great value of Massoud's 1967 monograph, I find it desirable to publish the aforementioned synonymies in order to fill this gap in the cited work.

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