



## The authorship and date of the genus-group name *Pachylomera* (Coleoptera: Scarabaeidae)

STEFANO ZIANI<sup>1</sup> & TRISTÃO BRANCO<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Via S. Giovanni, 41/a, 47014 Meldola (FC), Italy. E-mail: stefanoziani@alice.it

<sup>2</sup>Rua de Camões, 788, 2º Dto, P-4000-142 Porto, Portugal. E-mail: tristao.branco@gmail.com

In 1828, the English entomologist and clergyman William Kirby described *Scarabaeus femoralis* using material from the collection of another English entomologist and clergyman, Frederick William Hope. The holotype of *Scarabaeus femoralis* Kirby, 1828 (Fig. 1) is in the Hope Entomological Collections, Oxford University Museum of Natural History (hereafter referred to as OUMNH). The genus *Pachylomera* was subsequently erected for this species widespread in central and southern Africa. The purpose of this note is to demonstrate, under the rules of the International Code on Zoological Nomenclature (1999), that Griffith & Pidgeon (1831) should be credited with the authorship of the genus-group name *Pachylomera*.



FIGURE 1. Holotype of *Scarabaeus femoralis* Kirby, 1828 with labels (photo by Katherine Child, OUMNH).

Until Mostert & Scholtz (1986), the authorship of *Pachylomera* has been credited by all authors, with one exception, to "Kirby 1828": Harold (1869), Péringuey (1901), Gillet (1911), Janssens (1938, 1940), Ferreira (1952, 1967, 1968, 1972), and Halffter & Edmonds (1982). The exception is Neave (1940), who credited the name to "Kirby 1832, in Griffith-Cuvier, An. Kingdom, 14, 506". A variation of the spelling, but not of the authorship and date, is found in Shipp (1894) who, on page 255, listed first "*Pachylomera*" then in the key to the genera used "*PACHYLOMERUS*, Kirby", and in page 256 "*PACHYLOMERUS*, Kirby, Zool. Journ. iii. p. 520 (1828)". Shipp was an assistant in the OUMNH, and he must