

A new genus-group name for *Gymnomyza* Reichenow, 1914 (Passeriformes: Meliphagidae) a preoccupied name in Diptera

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ABSTRACT: *Gymnomyza* Reichenow, 1914 (Meliphagidae), is found to be a junior homonym of *Gymnomyza* Fallén, 1810, the type genus of a family-group name currently in use in Diptera. The next available genus-group name, *Amoromyza* Richmond, 1917, could be used as long as the types of it, and *Gymnomyza* Reichenow, 1914, are considered congeneric, but a recent study has shown this not to be the case, and that therefore a new genus-group name is required for *Leptornis aubryanus* Verreaux & Des Murs, 1860. A *nomen novum* is supplied under Article 13.1.3, and Article 16.1, of the ICZN Code (1999).

KEYWORDS: *Gymnomyza*, *Amoromyza*, Reichenow, Fallén, Richmond, Diptera, Gymnomyzinae, Latreille, Brine Flies, Meliphagidae, Crow Honeyeater.

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Reichenow (1914: 488) introduced the monotypic genus-group name *Gymnomyza* for *Leptornis aubryanus* Verreaux & Des Murs, 1860, the distinctive Crow Honeyeater (Meliphagidae) of New Caledonia. The one-line statement indicating the type species was sufficient for valid publication before 1931, see Article 12.2.5 (ICZN, 1999: 16).

This was picked up and listed by Richmond (1917: 593) in his *List of Generic names applied to Birds during the years 1906 to 1915 inclusive*. In a footnote to the entry for *Gymnomyza*, Richmond went to some length to point out that two other taxa, *Leptornis* “Hombron & Jacquinot, 1845?” = G.R. Gray, 1846 (type *Merops samoensis* Hombron & Jacquinot, 1841), and *Leptomyza* Stejneger, 1885 (type *Leptornis aubryanus* Verreaux & Des Murs, 1860), are preoccupied by *Leptornis* Billberg, 1820 [Lepidoptera], and *Leptomyza* Macquart, 1835, a new name for *Anthomyza* Fallén, 1810 [Diptera], respectively. It is strange, therefore, that he was apparently unaware that *Gymnomyza* Reichenow, 1914, was also preoccupied in Diptera, by *Gymnomyza* Fallén, 1810, and that this was the type genus of a family-group name then and currently in use: *Gymnomyzini* Latreille, 1829, as *Gymnomyzides* (Latreille, 1829: 535), suffix corrected under Article 11.7.1.3 (ICZN, 1999: 13).

Gymnomyzinae, as a subfamily of Ephydriidae, a worldwide family of shore or brine flies, has extensive and widespread use. While it is true that *Gymnomyza* Fallén, 1810, is currently regarded as a junior synonym of *Mosillus* Latreille, 1804, its place as the type genus of an in-use family-group name would preclude any attempt at suppression in favour of the junior homonym *Gymnomyza* Reichenow, 1914. Only *Gymnomyza* Fallén, 1810, as senior homonym, may be used as a valid name under Article 52.2 (ICZN, 1999: 56).

In pointing out the junior synonymy of *Leptornis* and *Leptomyza*, Richmond (1917: 593) concluded that *Merops samoensis* Hombron & Jacquinot, 1841, and *Tatara viridis* Layard, 1875, were without an available generic name, and proposed *Amoromyza*, with *Merops samoensis* Hombron & Jacquinot, 1841, as the type species. As long as *Leptornis aubryanus* Verreaux & Des

Murs, 1860, is considered to be congeneric with these forms, *Amoromyza* Richmond, 1917, could be used as the genus-group name for them all.

A recent study, however (Andersen *et al.*, 2019), has shown that far from being congeneric with *Amoromyza samoensis* (Hombron & Jacquinot, 1841), the Crow Honeyeater '*Gymnomyza aubryanus*' (Verreaux & Des Murs, 1860) represents an independent lineage without close living relatives, and while the authors caution against over-interpreting the results that were based on old toe-pad material, they stated (2019: 226) '*Gymnomyza* is paraphyletic and the three traditional species are not each other's closest relatives.', and (2019: 228) 'Clearly *G. aubryana* is not related to other *Gymnomyza*, and may be more closely related to *Philemon* friarbirds and their allies than previously thought'.

Given that none of the maximum likelihood trees presented in the supplemental data, figure S7 (Andersen *et al.*, 2019), placed '*Gymnomyza aubryanus*' anywhere near the Samoan and Fijian forms, with which it was previously associated, there can be no grounds for maintaining a paraphyletic or polyphyletic *Amoromyza*. The fact remains that *Gymnomyza* Reichenow, 1914, is a junior homonym of *Gymnomyza* Fallén, 1810, and it is wrong to continue to refer to a junior homonym, linked to unrelated forms in the primary literature, when discussing the relationships of the Crow Honeyeater.

We therefore propose, under Article 13.1.3 (ICZN, 1999: 17), and Article 16.1 (ICZN, 1999: 19), a new replacement genus-group name for *Gymnomyza* Reichenow, 1914:

Eugymnomyza nom. nov.

Etymology: Greek *eu-* good, well + *Gymnomyza* the unavailable genus-group name for the Crow Honeyeater. Gender: feminine. Type species, by monotypy, under Article 67.8 (ICZN, 1999: 68): *Leptornis aubryanus* Verreaux & Des Murs, 1860. New combination: *Eugymnomyza aubryana* (Verreaux & Des Murs, 1860).

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