

SCIENTIFIC NOTE

**THE NEARCTIC GENUS *TOREUS* MELANDER, 1906 VS.
TOREUS PURCELL, 1903: THE NEED FOR A
REPLACEMENT NAME (DIPTERA: EMPIDIDAE)**

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Genus *MELANDERALUS* nom. nov.

Toreus Melander, 1906. *Ent. News*, 17, 376. (Diptera: Brachycera: Empidoidea: Empididae). Preoccupied by *Toreus* Purcell, 1903. *Ann. S. Afr. Mus.*, 3, 9. (Arachnida: Solifugae: Ceromidae).

Remarks on nomenclatural changes: The genus *Toreus* was erected by Purcell (1903) for a solifugae genus with the type species *Ceroma capensis* Purcell, 1899 from S Africa. It is still used as a valid genus name. It has no any generic synonym. It is monotypic genus now.

Subsequently, the same genus name was proposed by Melander (1906) for a nearctic fly with the type species *Empis neomexicanus* Melander, 1902 in the family Empididae. It is still used as a valid genus name (Sinclair & Cumming, 2006). However, according to some authors, the status of genus *Toreus* is ambiguous. It has no any generic synonym. It is monotypic genus now.

Thus, the genus *Toreus* Melander, 1906 is a junior homonym of the genus *Toreus* Purcell, 1903. According to Article 60 of the International Code of Zoological Nomenclature, we propose for the genus *Toreus* Melander, 1906 the new replacement name *Melanderalus* nom. nov.

Etymology: This name is dedicated to A. L. Melander who is current author of the preexisting genus *Toreus*.

Summary of nomenclatural changes:

Melanderalus nom. nov.

pro *Toreus* Melander, 1906 (nec Purcell, 1903).

Melanderalus neomexicanus (Melander, 1902) comb. nov.

from *Melanderalus neomexicanus* (Melander, 1902)

Empis neomexicanus Melander, 1902

Distribution: Nearctic.

LITERATURE CITED

International Commission of Zoological Nomenclature. 1999. International Code of Zoological Nomenclature. Fourth Edition. The International Trust for Zoological Nomenclature, London.

Melander, A. L. 1906. Some new or little-known genera of Empididae. *Entomological News*, 17: 370-379.

Purcell, W. F. 1903. New South African spiders of the families Migidae, Ctenizidae, Barychelidae, Dipluridae and Lycosidae. *Ann. South African Mus.*, 3: 3-40.