

**NEODAMOPHILA NOM. NOV.,  
A REPLACEMENT NAME FOR THE BIRD  
GENUS *DAMOPHILA* REICHENBACH, 1854  
(AVES: APODIFORMES: TROCHILIDAE)**

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ABSTRACT: A junior homonym was detected amongst the bird genera and the following replacement name is proposed: *Neodamophila* nom. nov. for *Damophila* Reichenbach, 1854. Accordingly, new combinations are herein proposed for the species group name currently included in this genus.

KEY WORDS: nomenclatural change, homonymy, replacement name, Aves, Apodiformes.

**Phylum CHORDATA  
Classis AVES  
Order APODIFORMES  
Family TROCHILIDAE  
Subfamily TROCHILINAE  
Genus *NEODAMOPHILA* NOM. NOV.**

*Damophila* Reichenbach, 1854. J. Orn., 1, Extraheft. (Aufz. Colibr.), 4, 7. (Aves: Apodiformes: Trochilidae: Trochilinae). Preoccupied by *Damophila* Curtis, 1832. Brit. Entom., 9 (98), no. 391. (Insecta: Lepidoptera: Gelechioidea: Coleophoridae).

The *Damophila* Reichenbach, 1854 is a monotypic neotropical bird genus. It includes only one species, *Damophila julie* (Bourcier, 1842). The Violet-bellied Hummingbird (*Damophila julie*) is a species of the hummingbird family Trochilidae. It is found in South America (Colombia, Ecuador, Panama and Peru; It can occasionally be seen in Costa Rica). It's natural habitats are subtropical or tropical dry forests, subtropical or tropical moist lowland forests and heavily degraded former forest. The species has three subspecies as *Damophila julie julie* (Bourcier, 1842), *Damophila julie Feliciana* (Lesson, 1844) and *Damophila julie panamensis* Berlepsch, 1884.

According to BirdLife International (2004) "*this species has a large range, with an estimated global extent of occurrence of 290,000 km<sup>2</sup>. The global population size has not been quantified, but it is believed to be large as the species is described as 'frequent' in at least parts of its range (Stotz et al. 1996). Global population trends have not been quantified, but the species is not believed to approach the thresholds for the population decline criterion of the IUCN Red List (i.e., declining more*

than 30% in ten years or three generations). For these reasons, the species is evaluated as Least Concern”.

**Remarks on nomenclatural change:** The neotropical hummingbird *Damophila* Reichenbach, 1854 was established for a genus with the type species *Damophila julie* (Bourcier, 1842). Nevertheless the name *Damophila* is already occupied. Curtis (1832) established the genus *Damophila* with the type species *Porrectaria spissicornis* Haworth, 1828 by original designation for Lepidoptera. The name is still used as a valid generic name in Lepidoptera. *Metallosetia* Stephens, 1834 is a junior objective synonym of *Damophila* Curtis, 1832. Thus hummingbird *Damophila* Reichenbach, 1854 is a junior homonym of the genus *Damophila* Curtis, 1832. I suggest here that the name *Neodamophila* should be erected as a replacement name for hummingbird *Damophila* Reichenbach, 1854 not *Damophila* Curtis, 1832 (Lepidoptera).

Etymology: from the preexisting genus name *Damophila*.

Summary of nomenclatural changes:

Genus *Neodamophila* **nom. nov.**

= *Damophila* Reichenbach, 1854 (non Curtis, 1832).

Species *Neodamophila julie* (Bourcier, 1842) **comb. nov.**

= *Damophila julie* (Bourcier, 1842)

Subspecies *Neodamophila julie julie* (Bourcier, 1842) **comb. nov.**

= *Damophila julie julie* (Bourcier, 1842)

Subspecies *Neodamophila julie felicianana* (Lesson, 1844) **comb. nov.**

= *Damophila julie felicianana* (Lesson, 1844)

Subspecies *Neodamophila julie panamensis* (Berlepsch, 1884) **comb. nov.**

= *Damophila julie panamensis* Berlepsch, 1884

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