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LITERATURE CITED


PROVANCHER’S QUEBECENSIS MAYFLY SPECIES
(EPHEMEROPTERA: LEPTOPHLIEBIIDAE,
SIPHILONURIDAE)


ABSTRACT: Examination of the lectotype of Ephemera quebecensis shows it to be a junior synonym of Leptophlebia cupida (=E. quebecensis, n. syn.). Historical confusion and mistakes with respect to the dates of names and the possible equivalency of Ephemera quebecensis and Siphlonura quebecensis are discussed. Siphlonura quebecensis is a valid species that was named in 1878. Updated synonyms are provided for L. cupida and S. quebecensis.

As part of our study of the systematics of ephemerelline mayflies (Ephemeroptera: Ephemeroptera), we recently obtained and studied the female adult lecotype of the poorly known species, Ephemera quebecensis (Provancher). Provancher (1876) originally described this species from Quebec as Cloe quebecensis, and he later (Provancher 1878) transferred it to the genus Heptagenia Walsh. Burks (1953) examined the lecotype of this species and placed it in the genus Ephemera Walsh, where it has resided since that time (Edmunds and Allen 1957, Edmunds 1962, McCafferty 1996, McCafferty and Randolph 1998). Edmunds and Allen (1957) regarded E. quebecensis as a nomen dubium, because the lecotype was, at that time, not identifiable to the species level. Thus, the species was not assigned to a subgenus by Edmunds (1959, 1962), nor was it treated in the revision of North American Ephemeraella, sensu stricto, by Allen and Edmunds (1965).

Our examination of the lectotype of E. quebecensis revealed characters associated with the wings and abdomen that indicate the species belongs to the genus Leptophlebia Westwood (Leptophlebiidae). A recent study of Nearctic Leptophlebia species by Burian (2001) included for the first time comparative descriptions of female adults and eggs. Comparison of the lectotype of E. quebecensis to these descriptions and to material identified by S. K. Burian suggested to us that E. quebecensis is conspecific with the common eastern species L. cupida (Say). We dissected the abdomen of the pinned, dry lectotype of E. quebecensis and removed eggs for examination. Microscopic comparison of the chorionic structure of these eggs, which we hydrated, with that of eggs dissected from L. cupida, showed no differences between them and confirmed the equivalency of the two species. Therefore, we formally place E. quebecensis as a subjective junior synonym of L. cupida: Leptophlebia cupida (Say), 1823 (=Ephemera quebecensis (Provancher), 1876, NEW SYNONYM).

1 Received March 23, 2002. Accepted May 17, 2002.
2 Department of Entomology, Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana 47907-1158, USA.
An up-to-date alphabetical synonymy of *L. cupida* is as follows:

*Leptophlebia cupida* (Say) 1823  
*Baetis ignava* Hagen, 1861  
*Blaustus australis* Traver, 1932  
*Blaustus colinus* Traver, 1932
*Leptophlebia cupina* (Walker), 1853  
*Blaustus cupida* (Say), 1823  
*Blaustus gravissillus* Eaton, 1884  
*Cloe quebecensis* Provancher, 1876, n. syn.  
*Ephemerella quebecensis* (Provancher), 1876, n. syn.  
*Ephemerella cupida* Say, 1823  
*Ephemerella hebe* (Walker, 1853  
*Ephemerella cupida* Say, 1823

Provancher (1876) also described another species, *Baetis canadensis*. This name was preoccupied by *Baetis canadensis* Walker (1853), and Provancher (1878) renamed the species *Siphnurus quebecensis*, which was later emended to *Siphnurus quebecensis* (Provancher). The 1878 naming of *S. quebecensis* subsequently appeared verbatim in Provancher's (1883) second volume of "Petite Faune Entomologique du Canada." The first volume (Provancher 1877) was published six years before the second volume, and Eaton (1886) and Traver (1935), in synonymies of *S. quebecensis*, incorrectly assigned this earlier date to the second volume. Thus, we reiterate that 1878 is the year in which the name *S. quebecensis* first appeared, not 1877.

McDunnough (1925) and Traver (1935) (following McDunnough) incorrectly considered *Cloe quebecensis* to be a synonym of *Siphnurus quebecensis*. McDunnough (1925) had examined a specimen of Provancher's material with a blue "38" label that was identified as *Heptagenia quebecensis* (the species named as *Cloe quebecensis* in 1876 and herein considered a synonym of *L. cupida*) and another specimen with a blue "39" label that was identified as *Siphnurus quebecensis* (the species named in 1878). McDunnough then determined that both specimens were *Siphnurus quebecensis* and thus concluded that Provancher's 1876 *quebecensis* and 1878 *quebecensis* were the same species. The true *Cloe quebecensis* (= *Heptagenia quebecensis* = *Ephemerella quebecensis* = *L. cupida*), however, is not represented by the "38" specimen, but by the lectotype noted by Burks (1953) which has a blue "34" label. McDunnough's (1925) synonymy was based on the misidentified or mislabeled Provancher specimen "38."

An up-to-date alphabetical synonymy of *S. quebecensis* is as follows:

*Siphnurus quebecensis* (Provancher), 1878  
*Baetis canadensis* Provancher, 1876, n. syn. *B. canadensis* Walker, 1853  
*Siphnurus quebecensis* Provancher, 1878  
*Siphnurus triangulatus* Clemens, 1915  

Material examined.—*Ephemerella quebecensis*: LECTOTYPE: female adult (wing and parts of abdomen in capsule), "34," no other data [Provincial Museum, Laval University, Laval, Quebec].

*Leptophlebia cupida*: seven female adults (eggs dissected from one specimen), three male adults, associated exuviae, lab reared 29-VI-4-V-1978, Indiana, Brown Co., pond on road to Yellowwood State Forest from IN46, 29-IV-1978, M. Minno, B. Stiles; one female adult, associated exuviae, one male larva, Indiana, Fountain Co., Bear Cr. at the Portland Arch, 19-IV-1979, D. Bloodgood; two female adults, Montana, Lake Co., Swan R., Big Ford, 23-VI-1963, A. R. Gordon; one female adult, one male adult, one male subimago, two sets larval exuviae, New York, Hamilton Co., Lake on Sacandaga R. at Wells, emerged in lab on 2/3-VI-1970, R. W. Koos [Purdue University Entomological Research Collection, West Lafayette, Indiana].

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