

Acknowledgements

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The type material of *Microneta beata* O. P.-Cambridge, 1906

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When the type material of *Meioneta beata* (O. P.-Cambridge) in the Pickard-Cambridge Collection was being considered in 1964 (Locket, 1964: 273) no specimen recognised as that species by O. P.-Cambridge was available. A male (with a female) collected in the New Forest by Dr P. Merrett in 1960 was therefore designated as a neotype and labelled *Meioneta beata* (Cambridge).

Recently the material on which Pickard-Cambridge based his description (1906: 90) has come to light. There are four tubes each containing one male, and one has an additional female. The labels in the tubes are: "J: Falconer. July 9. 1901. Nr. Leeds.", "C. Falconer. Epping 1903. Type.", "Microneta ----? sp.n. Jackson

Nr.38 (and) Oct. 1st 1902" (♂ and ♀), "D. Jackson 29/06 Aa":

In view of this find it is clear that the 1964 neotype was invalidly designated and in fact never had any standing (see International Code of Zoological Nomenclature (1985), Article 75(c)). From the syntypes we select as the lectotype the male (which is accompanied by the only female in the syntype series) labelled "Microneta ----? sp.n. Jackson Nr.38" and (separate label in the tube) "Oct. 1st. 1902". This involves ignoring the word "Type" on the label of the Falconer specimen from Epping (found a year later), but in view of the poor condition of that specimen and the loose usage of the word "Type" by Pickard-Cambridge (Locket, 1964: 257) this would seem to be the sensible thing to do since he had all these specimens before him when describing the species in 1906 and he did not then designate any of the specimens as a holotype.

The syntypes are in the Pickard-Cambridge Collection in the Hope Entomological Collections, University Museum, Oxford.

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