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Entomological Society of America Proposal Form for new Common Name or Change of ESA-Approved Common Name

Complete this form and e-mail to pubs@entsoc.org.

Submissions will not be considered unless this form is filled out completely.

The proposer is expected to be familiar with the rules, recommendations, and procedures outlined in the "Use and Submission of Common Names" on the ESA website and with the discussion by A.B. Gurney, 1953, *Journal of Economic Entomology* 46:207-211.

1. Proposed new common name:

tawny crazy ant

2. Previously approved common name (if any):

None

3. Scientific name (genus, species, author):

Order: Hymenoptera
Family: Formicidae
Genus: *Nylanderia*
Species: *fulva* (Mayr)

Supporting Information

4. Reasons supporting the need for the proposed common name:

There has been confusion about the species identity of several populations of a *Nylanderia* crazy ant along the Gulf Coast states. The ant is an economically important invasive pest, having extremely large populations that dominate both natural and urban landscapes. Generally referred to as Raspberry [sic] crazy ant, invasive crazy ant, brown crazy ant, Caribbean crazy ant, hairy crazy ant, *Nylanderia sp. nr pubens*, or *Nylanderia pubens*, the species identity of these populations has recently been shown to be *Nylanderia fulva* (Mayr) by Gotzek et al. (2012, see citation below). Since the common names are uninformative (invasive crazy ant, Raspberry crazy ant, brown crazy ant), or based on the assumption that these populations are *N. pubens* (Caribbean crazy ant, hairy crazy ant), we propose the common name tawny crazy ant, since *fulva* means "tawny" and *Nylanderia* is a crazy ant (formerly *Paratrechina*). It is imperative to designate an official common name for *N. fulva* to curtail any additional confusion caused by the continued use of the aforementioned unofficial common names associated with this species or with *N. pubens*.

Gotzek, D., S. G. Brady, R. J. Kallal, and J. S., Lapolla. 2012. The importance of using multiple approaches for identifying emerging invasive species: the case of the Raspberry crazy ant in the United States. *PLoS ONE* 7(9): e45314. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0045314.

5. Stage or characteristic to which the proposed common name refers:

It refers to the specific name, *fulva*, which is based on the coloration of the adult workers.

6. Distribution (include references):

The native range is currently not known, but we have species occurrence records from Argentina, Paraguay, southern Brazil, Colombia, the Caribbean, and the Gulf Coast states of the U.S.A.

7. Principal hosts (include references):

None.

8. References containing previous use of the proposed common name:

None – the proposed common name is new.

9. References using common names (give names) other than that proposed:

- Calibeo D, Oi F (2011) Integrated pest management (IPM) of the Caribbean crazy ant, *Nylanderia* (= *Paratrechina*) *pubens* (Forel). ENY-2006 (IN889), Dept. Entomol. Nematol. Florida Coop. Ext. Ser., Institute Food & Agric. Sci., Univ. Florida. July 2011. <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu>.
- Cook SC, Wynalda RA, Gold RE, Behmer ST (2012) Macronutrient regulation in the Raspberry crazy ant (*Nylanderia* sp. nr. *pubens*). *Insectes Sociaux* 59: 93-100.
- Drees BM, Nester P, Gold R. (2009) Control of Raspberry crazy ants in and around homes and structures. Texas AgriLife Ext. Ser., Texas A&M System, College Station, TX.
- Gotzek D, Brady SG, Kallal RJ, Lapolla JS (2012) The importance of using multiple approaches for identifying emerging invasive species: the case of the Raspberry crazy ant in the United States. *PLoS ONE* 7(9): e45314. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0045314.
- MacGown J, Layton B (2010) The Invasive Crazy Ant, *Nylanderia* sp. nr. *pubens* (Hymenoptera: Formicidae), reported from Mississippi. *Midsouth Entomol* 3:44-47.
- Meyers JM, Gold RE (2008) Identification of an exotic pest ant, *Paratrechina* sp. nr. *pubens* (Hymenoptera: Formicidae), in Texas. *Sociobiol* 52:589-604.
- Valles SM, Oi DH, Yu F, Tan X-X, Buss EA. (2012). Metatranscriptomics and pyrosequencing facilitate discovery of potential viral natural enemies of the invasive Caribbean crazy ant, *Nylanderia pubens*. *PLoS ONE* 7(2): e31828. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0031828.
- Warner J, Scheffrahn RH (2010) Caribbean Crazy Ant (proposed common name), *Nylanderia* (= *Paratrechina*) *pubens* (Forel) (Insecta: Hymenoptera: Formicidae: Formicinae) *Univ. Florida Ext. EENY284*:1.
- Wetterer JK, Keularts JLW (2008) Population explosion of the hairy crazy ant, *Paratrechina pubens* (Hymenoptera: Formicidae), on St. Croix, US Virgin Islands. *Florida Entomol* 91:423-427.
- Zhao L., Chen J., Jones WA, Oi DH, Drees BM (2012). Molecular comparisons suggest Caribbean crazy ant from Florida and Raspberry crazy ant from Texas (Hymenoptera: Formicidae: *Nylanderia*) are the same species. *Environ. Entomol.* 41: 1008-1018.

10. Other insects or organisms to which the proposed common name might apply:

None.

11. Steps you have taken to consult with other workers who are familiar with the insect or organism as to suitability of and need for the proposed common name:

The following myrmecologists, taxonomists, research and/or extension professionals, diagnosticians, and a technical director of a major pest control firm who have worked or have an interest in this species are supportive of the proposal. Most expressed the need to establish a common name for this species given the confusion over its identification in the U.S. and the plethora of unofficial names used in the media (documentation provided to Common Names committee):

Mark Deyrup, Archbold Biological Station, Lake Placid, FL
Lloyd Davis, myrmecologist, Gainesville, FL
Bart Drees, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX
Stoy Hedges, Terminix International, Memphis, TN
Linda Hooper-Bui, Louisiana State Univ., Baton Rouge, LA
John LaPolla, Towson University, Towson, Maryland
Edward LeBrun, University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX

Joe MacGown, Mississippi Entomological Museum, Mississippi State University
Faith Oi, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL
James Trager, Shaw Nature Reserve, Gray Summit, MO
Karen Vail, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN
Steven Valles, USDA-ARS Center for Medical, Agricultural, & Veterinary Entomology, Gainesville, FL
Bob Vander Meer, USDA-ARS Center for Medical, Agricultural, & Veterinary Entomology, Gainesville, FL
John Warner, University of Florida, Fort Lauderdale Res & Educ. Center, Davie, FL
James Wetterer, Florida Atlantic University, Jupiter, FL

No opinion:

Rudolf H. Scheffrahn, University of Florida, Fort Lauderdale Res & Educ. Center, Davie, FL (provided background info on his involvement with the designation the name, *Paratechina sp. nr. pubens* for samples of this ant from Texas).

Not supportive of proposal:

Roger Gold, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX (“tawny” is a non-distinguishing common name, particularly when many of the *Nylanderia* are tawny in color (light to dark); prefers something more descriptive such as the “Brazilian Crazy Ant”, which is the recognized type location)

Roberto Pereira, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL (“crazy” does not reflect the extreme, erratic, scurrying behavior compared to other crazy ants; “tawny” is not commonly used by the general public, thus limiting its utility as a descriptive term [from phone discussion with D. Oi, 21Nov12]).

Mandy Rasberry, Rasberry’s Pest Professionals (daughter of Tom Rasberry namesake of unofficial name: Rasberry crazy ant).

Tom Rasberry, owner Rasberry’s Pest Professional, preferred to keep status quo to avoid further confusion with another name [from phone discussion with D. Oi, 25Sep12].

Proposed by (your name): David Oi and Dietrich Gotzek

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