

## INTRODUCTION

The present publication contains a list of all the Fabrician types. Included are also the Lund types of the beetle family Brentidae, which Fabricius re-described in *Systema Eleutheratorum*, based on the Lund type specimens from his and Sehested's collections; and also the Weber types, many of which are found in Fabricius' collection. In some listed species no mention of a previous author is made by Fabricius although some of the species may be found to be præ Fabrician ones.

The original idea was to draw up a list of the types in Sehested and Tønder Lund's collection in Copenhagen; however, to avoid mistakes, it very soon proved necessary to go through Fabricius' own collection in Kiel. Owing to his interest in the work, Dr. S. L. Tuxen arranged for this collection to be deposited in the Zoological Museum of Copenhagen for an indefinite period, where it is now to be found.

In the present publication the species are mentioned in the same order as in Fabricius' monographs; his collection was and is still arranged in this order. This applies to Coleoptera, Hymenoptera, Hemiptera, and Diptera. Owing to the fact that Fabricius' monograph of Lepidoptera was never finished, these insects are mentioned in chronological order. This is also the case with regard to the smaller insect orders. The first description of the species is always given. Also included are the notes left in the collections in Copenhagen by the authors working on the types, e. g. the selection of lectotypes, etc.

Below is given a short description of Fabricius' life, mainly based on his autobiography.

Johann Christian Fabricius was born 7th January, 1745, in Tønder in the Duchy of Slesvig, where his father was a county and city physician. His education was of a more liberal nature than was customary at that time. Not all subjects taught him by his private tutor interested the lively boy. But there were three volumes with dried up plants in his father's not insignificant library which caught his interest. They were examined, and if he discovered a Linnean species, his enthusiasm was immense. He also collected plants and insects in the neighbourhood, but »Cicero had to suffer for this«, as he says himself. Fabricius matriculated from a »Gymnasium« in Altona, and in 1762 he came to Copenhagen whereto his father had been transferred. In the same year Fabricius went to Uppsala to study under Linné. Throughout the description of his stay there one notices his enthusiasm for Linné, and the latter, too, was not sparing in praise of his brilliant pupil. Fabricius must indeed have been