

Case 3018

Cervus gouazoubira Fischer, 1814 (currently *Mazama gouazoubira*; Mammalia, Artiodactyla): proposed conservation as the correct original spelling

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Abstract. The purpose of this application is to conserve the spelling of the specific name of *Cervus gouazoubira* Fischer, 1814 for the brown brocket deer of South America (family CERVIDAE). This spelling, rather than the original *gouazoupira*, has been in virtually universal usage for almost 50 years.

Keywords. Nomenclature; taxonomy; Mammalia; Artiodactyla; CERVIDAE; *Mazama gouazoubira*; brown brocket deer; South America.

1. Fischer (1814, p. 465) established the names *Cervus gouazoupita* and *C. gouazoupira* for the two Paraguayan brocket deer that Azara (1802, pp. 51, 57) described under the vernacular names Guazu-pita and Guazu-bira. Azara (1802) used the Guarani Indian name spelled in the Latin alphabet as Guazu-pita (p. 51; spelled Gouazupita in the 1801, p. 82, French translation) for the red brocket. In the same work he used the Guarani name Guazu-bira (p. 57; spelled Gouazubira in the 1801, p. 86, French translation) for the brown brocket. Fischer (1814) cited Azara (1802) as the sole source of these names and descriptions but (pp. xvii, 701) he spelled the vernacular name for the brown brocket as Guazupira, instead of Guazubira, and introduced *gouazoupira* as the specific name (in combination with *Cervus*).

2. For most of the 19th and first half of the 20th centuries a number of additional names were given to red and brown brocket deer, some authors also basing their names on Azara's descriptions and Guarani vernacular names. As the systematics of brown brocket deer became better understood, the common and widespread brown brocket became known as *Mazama simplicicornis* (Illiger, 1815). Fischer's (1814) *Cervus gouazoupita* is the common red brocket, for which the name in use is the earlier synonym *Mazama americana* (Erxleben, 1777).

3. Hershkovitz (1951, p. 567) pointed out that '... *M[azama]. gouazoubira* Fischer (1814, *Zoognosia*, 3: 465, originally misprinted '*gouazoupira*'; antedates *simplicicornis* Illiger, 1815, also based on Azara's *gouazoubira*)'. Authors familiar with Azara's accounts of the quadrupeds of Paraguay (as was Hershkovitz) would have recognized Fischer's 'Guazu-pira' (and the derived specific name *gouazoupira*) as a misspelling of 'Guazu-bira'. Nearly universally, subsequent authors (see, for example, Miller & Kellogg, 1955; Hall & Kelson, 1959; Walker et al., 1964 and later revisions; Whitehead, 1972; Husson, 1978; Corbet & Hill, 1991 and previous editions) have used the spelling *gouazoubira*, as emended by Hershkovitz nearly 50 years ago.

Cabrera (1961, p. 338) adopted *gouazoubira* and noted Fischer's (1814) spelling *gouazoupira* as 'lapsus evidente por *gouazoubira*'. Of 19 citations listed under *Mazama* for the common brown brocket in *Zoological Record* from 1985 (volume 122) through 1995 (volume 131), 18 used the spelling *gouazoubira* and one used the junior synonym *simplicicornis*. Grubb (1993, p. 391), however, introduced the spelling *gouazoupira*, stating that 'although the specific name is based on the *gouazoubira* of Azara, the original spelling was '*gouazoupira*' not '*gouazoubira*'. Grubb (1993) was cited in vol. 130 of *Zoological Record* but was not referenced under *Mazama*.

4. I have prepared a list of publications for 1993 and later in which the brown brocket deer has been cited. The list, which may be missing some usages particularly in the South American literature, contains 12 references. Of these, one (Miglino, de Souza, Carvahal & Didio, 1993) adopted the name *simplicicornis*, another (Fonseca et al., 1996) used the spelling *gouazoupira*, but all the rest maintained the usage of *gouazoubira*. These references are: Bisbal, 1994; Yanosky & Mercolli, 1994; Douzery, Labreton & Catzefflis (1995); Pacheco et al. (1995), Richard, Julia & Acenolaza (1995); Peres (1996); Yang, O'Brien, Weinberg & Ferguson-Smith (1997); Yang et al. (1997); Medellín, Gardner & Aranda (1998) and Nowak (1999). The references include publications on taxonomy, ecology, genetics and parasitology, as well as regional and national checklists.

5. The Guaraní Indian names 'guazu-pita' and 'guazu-bira' (or dialectical variants) are widely used regional vernaculars for the red and brown brocket deer respectively of Paraguay, parts of Uruguay, northern Argentina and southern Brazil. Adoption of the spelling *gouazoupira* for the brown brocket will create confusion anywhere the red brocket is known as the 'guazu-pita' and the brown brocket as 'guazu-bira'. I therefore propose that the spelling *gouazoubira*, which has been virtually universally in use for very nearly 50 years for the brown brocket deer, be maintained.

6. The International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature is accordingly asked:

- (1) to use its plenary powers to rule that the correct original spelling of the specific name *gouazoupira* Fischer, 1814, as published in the binomen *Cervus gouazoupira*, is *gouazoubira*;
- (2) to place on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology the name *gouazoubira* Fischer, 1814, as published in the binomen *Cervus gouazoubira* (spelling emended by the ruling in (1) above);
- (3) to place on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Specific Names in Zoology the name *gouazoupira* Fischer, 1814, as published in the combination *Cervus gouazoupira* (ruled in (1) above to be an incorrect original spelling of *gouazoubira*).

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