

OPINION 1231

BLATTA GERMANICA LINNAEUS, 1767
(INSECTA, DICTUOPTERA): CONSERVED AND
DESIGNATED AS TYPE SPECIES OF *BLATTELLA*
CAUDELL, 1903

RULING.—(1) Under the plenary powers

- (a) it is hereby ruled that the specific name *germanica* Linnaeus, 1767, as published in the binomen *Blatta germanica*, is to be given precedence over the name *transfuga* Brünnich, 1763, as published in the binomen *Blatta transfuga*, whenever the two names are considered to be synonyms;
- (b) all designations of type species for the nominal genus *Blattella* Caudell, 1903, are hereby set aside and *Blatta germanica* Linnaeus, 1767 is hereby designated type species of that genus;
- (c) the following family-group names are to be given precedence in the order in which they appear below whenever they are used within a single superfamily:
 - 1. EPILAMPRIDAE Brunner von Wattenwyl, 1865 (type genus *Epilampra* Burmeister, 1838);
 - 2. ECTOBIIDAE Brunner von Wattenwyl, 1865 (type genus *Ectobius* Stephens, 1835);
 - 3. BLATTELLIDAE Karny, 1908 (replacement name for PHYLLODROMIIDAE Brunner von Wattenwyl, 1865) (type genus *Blattella* Caudell, 1903);
 - 4. PSEUDOMOPIDAE Rehn, 1903 (type genus *Pseudomops* Audinet-Serville, 1831).

(2) The following names are hereby placed on the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology with the Name Numbers specified:

- (a) *Blattella* Caudell, 1903 (gender: feminine), type species, by designation under the plenary powers in (1)(b) above, *Blatta germanica* Linnaeus, 1767 (Name Number 2171);
- (b) *Epilampra* Burmeister, 1838 (gender: feminine), type species, by subsequent designation by Kirby, 1903, *Blatta brasiliensis* Fabricius, 1775 (Name Number 2172);
- (c) *Pseudomops* Audinet-Serville, 1831 (gender: masculine), type species, by monotypy, *Blatta oblongata* Linnaeus, 1758 (Name Number 2173).

(3) The following names are hereby placed on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology with the Name Numbers specified:

- (a) *germanica* Linnaeus, 1767, as published in the binomen *Blatta germanica* (specific name of type species of *Blattella* Caudell, 1903) with an endorsement that it is to be given precedence over the specific name *transfuga* Brünnich, 1763, whenever the two names are considered to be synonyms (Name Number 2828);
- (b) *brasiliensis* Fabricius, 1775, as published in the binomen *Blatta brasiliensis* (specific name of type species of *Epilampra* Burmeister, 1838 (Name Number 2829);
- (c) *oblongata* Linnaeus, 1758, as published in the binomen *Blatta oblongata* (specific name of type species of *Pseudomops* Audinet-Serville, 1831) (Name Number 2830).
- (d) *transfuga* Brünnich, 1763, as published in the binomen *Blatta transfuga*, with an endorsement that it is not to be given priority over *Blatta germanica* Linnaeus, 1767, whenever the two names are considered to be synonyms (Name Number 2831).

(4) The following names are hereby placed on the Official List of Family-Group Names in Zoology with an endorsement that they are to be given nomenclatural precedence in the order shown, and with the Name Numbers specified:

- (a) EPILAMPRIDAE Brunner von Wattenwyl, 1865 (type genus *Epilampra* Burmeister, 1838) (Name Number 544);
- (b) ECTOBIIDAE Brunner von Wattenwyl, 1865 (type genus *Ectobius* Stephens, 1835) (Name Number 545);
- (c) BLATTELLIDAE Karny, 1908 (type genus *Blattella* Caudell, 1903) (Name Number 546);
- (d) PSEUDOMOPIDAE Rehn, 1903 (type genus *Pseudomops* Audinet-Serville, 1831) (Name Number 547).

HISTORY OF THE CASE Z.N.(S.)680

An application for the conservation of *Blatta germanica* Linnaeus, 1767, was first received from Dr D.K. McE. Kevan (then of *University of Nottingham, England*) and Dr K. Princis (*University of Lund, Sweden*) on 24 May 1952. Due to various delays it was not published until 10 November 1961 in *Bull. zool. Nom.* vol. 18, pp. 330–331. For reasons that cannot now be ascertained, that application was never put to a vote.

The case was reopened in October 1974. Dr Kevan (now of

Macdonald Campus of McGill University, Quebec, Canada) found that it was more complex than it had formerly appeared. His revised application was sent to the printer on 16 February 1978 and published on 31 July 1978 in *Bull. zool. Nom.* vol. 35, pp. 34–39. Public notice of the possible use of the plenary powers in the case was given in the same part of the *Bulletin* as well as to the statutory serials, to eight general and seven specialised periodicals. No comments were received.

DECISION OF THE COMMISSION

On 25 February 1982 the members of the Commission were invited to vote under the Three-Month Rule on Voting Paper (1982)2 for or against the proposals set out in *Bull. zool. Nom.* vol. 35, pp. 37–39. At the close of the voting period on 25 May 1982 the state of the voting was as follows:

Affirmative Votes — twenty-one (21) received in the following order: Melville, Holthuis (in part), Alvarado, Mroczkowski, Starobogatov, Willink, Trjapitzin, Tortonese, Vokes, Halvorsen, Habe, Cogger, Bayer, Welch, Brinck, Sabrosky, Nye, Hahn (in part), Lehtinen (in part), Heppell, Kraus
Negative Votes — none (0).

Corliss returned a late affirmative vote. Ride was on leave of absence. No voting papers were returned by Bernardi, Binder and Dupuis.

The following comments were sent in by members of the Commission with their voting papers:

Holthuis: 'I vote against proposal (1)(c) and against the endorsement to proposal (4)'.

Nye: 'As a consequence of proposal (1)(a) the specific name *transfuga*, as published in the binomen *Blatta transfuga*, should also be placed on the Official List with an endorsement that it is not to be given priority over *Blatta germanica*. The endorsement giving precedence to *Blatta germanica* should also be added to the Official List entry'. (These points have been taken into account in drafting the present Ruling.)

Hahn: 'I do not agree with (1)(c) as presented. Anyone who decides that EPILAMPRIDAE, BLATTELLIDAE, ECTOBIIDAE and PSEUDOMOPIDAE are independent families, each with its own type genus, and not competing with each other, may be hindered in his systematic approach if the Commission adopts this proposal. The proposed precedence is useful if the names compete with each other, but this is not expressed distinctly enough in (1)(c)'.

Lehtinen: 'I vote against (1)(c) and (4)'.

ORIGINAL REFERENCES

The following are the original references for the names placed on Official Lists by the ruling given in the present Opinion:

Blattella Caudell, 1903, *Proc. entomol. Soc. Washington*, vol. 5, p. 234

BLATTELLIDAE Karny, 1908, *Mitt. natur. Ver. Univ. Wien*, vol. 6, p. 112

brasiliensis, *Blatta*, Fabricius, 1775, *Syst. Entomol.*, p. 272

ECTOBIIDAE Brunner von Wattenwyl, 1865, *Nouv. Syst. Blatt.* (Wien), pp. 46, 51

Epilampra Burmeister, 1838, *Handb. Entomol.* vol. 2 (2), p. 504

EPILAMPRIDAE Brunner von Wattenwyl, 1865, *Nouv. Syst. Blatt.* (Wien), pp. 47, 147

germanica, *Blatta*, Linnaeus, 1767, *Syst. Nat.* ed. 12, vol. 1, p. 668

oblongata, *Blatta*, Linnaeus, 1758, *Syst. Nat.* ed. 10, vol. 1, p. 425

PSEUDOMOPIDAE Rehn, 1903, *Trans. amer. entomol. Soc.*, vol. 29, p. 260

Pseudomops Audinet-Serville, 1831, *Ann. Sci. nat.* vol. 22, p. 41

transfuga, *Blatta*, Brünnich, 1763 in Pontoppidan, *Den Danske Atlas*, vol. 1, p. 679, pl. 29.

The following is the original reference for a type-species designation accepted in the present ruling: of *Blatta brasiliensis* Fabricius, 1775, as type species of *Epilampra* Burmeister, 1838 by Kirby, 1903, *Ann. Mag. nat. Hist.* (7) vol. 12, p. 276.

CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that the votes cast on V.P.(82)2 were cast as set out above, that the proposal contained in that voting paper has been duly adopted under the plenary powers and that the decision so taken, being the decision of the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature, is truly recorded in the present Opinion No. 1231.

R.V. MELVILLE

Secretary

International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature

London

10 June 1982



International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature. 1982. "Opinion 1231. *Blatta germanica* Linnaeus, 1767 (Insecta, Dictyoptera): conserved and designated as type species of *Blattella* Caudell, 1903." *The Bulletin of zoological nomenclature* 39, 243–246.

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