

Case 2225/1

***Nonion* de Montfort, 1808 (Foraminiferida): proposed designation of *Nautilus faba* Fichtel & Moll, 1798 as the type species**

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Abstract. The purpose of this application is to designate the nominal species *Nautilus faba* Fichtel & Moll, 1798 as the type species of *Nonion* de Montfort, 1808. This is in conformity with the established concept of *Nonion* since its proposal.

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1. The genus *Nonion* de Montfort (1808, p. 210–212) was originally described as: ‘Coquille libre, univalve, cloisonnée, en disque, et contournée en spirale; mame-
lonnée sur les deux centres, le dernier tour de spire renfermant tous les autres; dos
renflé, bouche arrondie, recouverte par un diaphragme ouvert en croissant contre
le retour de la spire, qu’elle reçoit dans son milieu; cloisons unies’.
 2. The type species by original designation is *Nautilus incrassatus* Fichtel & Moll,
1798 (p. 38). *Nonion* gained early acceptance and usage, being cited by de Blainville
(1825, p. 143) and Deshayes (1832, p. 629) and has been consistently used as a valid
genus name since. Family-group names, from sub-family to super-family, have been
based on it; all have the authorship of Schultze (1854, p. 53) who published ‘Nonionida’.
 3. Although Fichtel & Moll (1798, pl. 4, figs. a–c) drew only one equatorial, lateral
view to accompany the axial edge view of the test of *Nautilus incrassatus*, the bilateral
symmetry which was shown by the axial view and implied in the accompanying brief
description, together with its assignment to the planospiral genus *Nautilus*, led to the
assumption that the genus *Nonion* de Montfort should be characterised by (inter alia) a
planospiral, involute test with a bilaterally symmetrical, interiomarginal aperture. This
interpretation has been universally and consistently maintained in the usage of *Nonion*.
 4. Our discovery, recognition and redescription (Rögl & Hansen, 1984) of the type
specimens of *Nautilus incrassatus* have shown that the species is significantly different
from the established concept of *Nonion*. *Nautilus incrassatus* is asymmetrical, a low
trochospire, with its interiomarginal aperture extending into the spiral suture only on
the more evolute side of the trochospire.
 5. There is no doubt that the type specimens of *Nautilus incrassatus* belong to the
taxon generally recognised as *Anomalinoides* Brotzen, 1942 (p. 23) which has as its type
species by original designation *Anomalinoides plummerae* Brotzen, 1942 (= *Anomalina
pinguis* Jennings, 1936). *Anomalinoides* has been extensively used for Cretaceous–

Cenozoic species since its original proposal. It is now evident that continued acceptance of *Nautilus incrassatus* as the type species of *Nonion* would involve a most unwelcome and widespread destabilisation in foraminiferan nomenclature.

5. In order to maintain stability, we have proposed (Hansen & Rögl, 1980; Rögl & Hansen, 1984) that the designation of *Nautilus incrassatus* as type of *Nonion* be set aside and *Nautilus faba* Fichtel & Moll, 1798 be designated instead. *N. faba* was one of the originally included species which conforms both to the original concept (de Montfort, 1808) and the current usage of *Nonion*. A lectotype of *N. faba* has been designated by Rögl & Hansen (1984, p. 65 and figures).

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

- (1) to use its plenary powers to set aside all previous designations of type species made for the nominal genus *Nonion* de Montfort, 1808 and to designate *Nautilus faba* Fichtel & Moll, 1798 as type species;
- (2) to place on the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology the name *Nonion* de Montfort, 1808 (gender: masculine), type species, by designation in (1) above, *Nautilus faba* Fichtel & Moll, 1798;
- (3) to place on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology the name *faba* Fichtel & Moll, 1798, as published in the binomen *Nautilus faba* (specific name of the type species of *Nonion* de Montfort, 1808) and as defined by the lectotype designated by Rögl & Hansen (1984).

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Hansen, H J and Rogl, F. 1988. "Nonion de Montfort, 1808 (Faraminiferida): proposed designation of *Nautilus faba* Fichtel & Moll, 1798 as the type species." *The Bulletin of zoological nomenclature* 45, 104–105.
<https://doi.org/10.5962/bhl.part.596>.

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