

COSMOPTERIX HÜBNER, 1825 (INSECTA: LEPIDOPTERA):
PROPOSED DESIGNATION OF A TYPE-SPECIES UNDER THE
PLENARY POWERS. Z.N.(S.) 1742

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The purpose of the present application is to insure stability of the name *Cosmopterix* in the sense used by taxonomists for the past 100 years and at the same time to continue the use of the familial name Cosmopterigidae.

2. *Cosmopterix*, the type-genus of Cosmopterigidae Heinemann and Wocke (1876 : 520), was proposed by Hübner (1825) for seven species, including *Tinea zieglerella* Hübner and *Tinea angustipennella* Hübner, but he did not designate a type-species.

3. Subsequently, two type-species designations have been made. The first was made by Desmarest (1857 : 299) who selected *Tinea angustipennella* as type-species; the second was made by Walsingham (1909 : 4) who selected *Tinea zieglerella* as type-species. (A third, supposed, type-species designation was made by Zeller (1839 : 210); however, no name was listed as type, and two of the names originally included by Hübner in *Cosmopterix* were given. Thus, no type-species was actually selected. Within the same paper Zeller made the incorrect emendation *Cosmopteryx*.)

4. The species *angustipennella* and *zieglerella* are neither congeneric nor even members of the same family; *angustipennella* (a junior synonym of *Phalaena Tinea pedella* Linnaeus) is a species of *Stathmopoda* Herrich-Schäffer, 1853, in the Heliodinidae Heinemann and Wocke (1876 : 518); *zieglerella* is a species of *Cosmopterix* in the Cosmopterigidae. Subsequent to Herrich-Schäffer's (1853 : 54, pl. 9, f. 22) definition of *Stathmopoda* (monobasic), authors, with the exception of Desmarest, have followed him in recognizing two genera, *Stathmopoda* and *Cosmopterix*.

5. *Cosmopterix*, as defined by Desmarest (this designation had been overlooked until pointed out by me (1961 : 11)), is a heliodinid genus and a senior synonym of *Stathmopoda* (containing more than 220 species). The family name Heliodinidae has page priority over Cosmopterigidae, so the latter would become a junior synonym of Heliodinidae. A junior synonym of Cosmopterigidae, Diplosaridae Meyrick (1916 : 339) would be used for the genera currently in Cosmopterigidae. And, a new generic name would have to be proposed for the species in *Cosmopterix* (*auct.*) (a genus with more than 140 species).

6. Recognition of *Tinea zieglerella* as the type-species of *Cosmopterix* would promote stability of nomenclature by obviating the drastic changes outlined in the preceding paragraph. Therefore, I ask that the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature:

- (1) use its plenary powers to set aside all designations of type-species for the genus *Cosmopterix* Hübner, 1825, made prior to the ruling now

- requested and, having done so, designate *Tinea zieglerella* Hübner, 1796, as type-species of that genus;
- (2) place *Cosmopterix* Hübner, 1825, type-species, by designation under the plenary powers in (1) above, *Tinea zieglerella* Hübner, 1796, on the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology;
 - (3) place on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology the specific name *zieglerella* Hübner, 1796, as published in the binomen *Tinea zieglerella* (type-species of *Cosmopterix* Hübner, 1825);
 - (4) place the name COSMOPTERIGIDAE (correction of COSMPTERYGIDAE) Heinemann and Wocke, 1876 (type-species *Cosmopterix* Hübner, 1825) on the Official List of Family-Group Names in Zoology.

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