

COMMENT ON *SCHIZONEURA PATCHIAE* AND *S. PATCHI* Z.N.(S.) 1859
(see volume 25, pages 222-223)

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1. *Schizoneura patchiae*, 1916, was not incorrect, and the emendation to *patchae* was unjustified and hence invalid. Börner and Blunck (1916) latinised the name Patch to *Patchia* and then formed the normal Latin feminine genitive *patchiae* (even as Aldrich was transformed to *Aldrichius* and thence became *aldrichii*, and Smith to *Smithius* and thence to *smithii*, to mention two commonly used specific names). Such transformation of a proper name to Latin form, followed by formation of the proper Latin genitive, was formerly a regular practice. Later, especially following the International Rules of Zoological Nomenclature, genitive endings were added "to the exact and complete name", hence a name dedicated to Dr. Edith Patch was *patchae*. But *patchiae* was not wrong, and here it is a correct and original spelling and should be preserved. No action is needed to protect it against the junior synonym *S. ulmosedens* Marchal, 1919.

2. *Schizoneura patchi* Meunier was incorrectly formed under the International Rules and should have been emended to *patchae*. This was true also in the new International Code of Zoological Nomenclature (1961), but at the Washington Congress (1963) the relevant Article 31 was changed to a Recommendation. In my opinion, this was an ill-advised change, but be that as it may, the change leaves the spelling *patchi* undisturbed. But either *patchi* or *patchae* would apparently be nomenclaturally distinct from *patchiae*: although the names are of the same origin and meaning, there is at least a one-letter difference that is not one of the variable spellings listed as homonymous (Article 58). Technically, then, the new replacement name *S. meunieri* is unjustified. However, existence within the same genus of two such similar names as *patchiae* and *patchi* (or *patchae*) would be obviously unfortunate and potentially confusing. Furthermore, the slight differences in genitive forms *-iae* and *-ae* are homologous with spellings that are already regarded by the Code as homonymous (Article 58, *-i* and *-ii* in patronymic genitives).

3. Accordingly, I suggest that the Commission take no action on *S. patchiae* Börner and Blunck and that the normal rules of nomenclature apply to it, but that the Commission be requested:

(1) under the plenary powers:

(a) to suppress the name *patchi* Meunier, 1917, as published in the combination *Schizoneura patchi* (= request 1 b of Heie's application);

(b) to validate for it the proposed new name *meunieri* Heie, as published in the combination *S. meunieri*; and

(2) to add the names to the Official List or Official Index, as appropriate.

4. Further, I propose that a Declaration be issued amending Article 58 (10) to read as follows:

"(10) the termination *-i* or *-ii*, or *-ae* or *-iae*, in a patronymic genitive (e.g., *smithi*, *smithii*; *patchae*, *patchiae*)."



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