OPINIONS AND DECLARATIONS
RENDERED BY THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON
ZOOLOGICAL NOMENCLATURE

Edited by

FRANCIS HEMMING, C.M.G., C.B.E.
Secretary to the Commission


OPINION 167

Suspension of the rules for Euthalia Hübner,
[1819] (Class Insecta, Order Lepidoptera)

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INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON ZOOLOGICAL NOMENCLATURE

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OPINION 167.

SUSPENSION OF THE RULES FOR EUTHALIA HÜBNER, [1819] (CLASS INSECTA, ORDER LEPIDOPTERA).

SUMMARY.—Under suspension of the rules it is hereby declared that page priority shall not be invoked to secure precedence for Symphaedra Hübner, [1819] (type: Symphaedra alcandra Hübner, [1819]), over Euthalia Hübner, [1819] (type: Papilio lubentina Cramer, [1777]), and the name Euthalia Hübner is therefore valid. This decision does not affect the validity of the Symphaedra Hübner, if and when it may be desired on taxonomic grounds to place Symphaedra alcandra Hübner and Papilio lubentina Cramer in different genera. The name Euthalia Hübner, [1819] (Class Insecta, Order Lepidoptera), with the type indicated above, is hereby added to the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology as Name No. 613.

I.—THE STATEMENT OF THE CASE.

This case was submitted to the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature in a letter dated 24th October 1934, in which Commissioner Francis Hemming and Mr. N. D. Riley, Keeper of the Department of Entomology, British Museum (Natural History), jointly invited the Commission to render Opinions in regard to this, and certain other, generic names in the Order Lepidoptera (Class Insecta). The passage in that letter relating to the name Euthalia Hübner reads as follows:—

(a) We recommend that the following names should be added by the International Commission to the Official List of Generic Names. Our reasons for so recommending are fully set out in the statements, the terms of which we have jointly agreed, contained in Hemming's Generic Names of the Holarctic Butterflies on the pages noted below:—

Euthalia Hübner, [1818],¹ (Hemming (loc. cit. 1 : 91–92))

¹ At the time that this application was made to the International Commission, there was much uncertainty regarding the dates of publication of the entomological works of Jacob Hübner, and in particular of his Verzeichniss bekannter Schmettlinge [sic]. These doubts have since been put to rest by the discovery of Hübner's original manuscripts. The correct date for Euthalia Hübner is [1819]. See Opinion 150 (1943, Opinions and Declarations rendered by the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature 1 : 161–168).
2. The following is an extract from the work referred to above of the passage relating to this genus:

**EUTHALIA** Hübner

Hüblner, [1818], *Verz. bekannt. Schmett.* (3) : 41

**TYPE**: Papilio lubentina Cramer, 1777

Of the two species given by Hüblner, Scudder selected lubentina Cram. as the type.

On a strict application of the rules in the International Code of Zoological Nomenclature the name Symphaedra Hübner, [1818], should take precedence of Euthalia Hübner, [1818]. Nomenclatorially, both Euthalia Hübner and Symphaedra Hübner are valid names, but one must sink as a synonym of the other, as their respective types (Papilio lubentina Cram., 1777 and Symphaedra alcandra Hübner, [1818]) are congeneric. Both names were published simultaneously by Hübner in the *Verz. bekannt. Schmett*. The name Symphaedra Hübner was published on p. 40 and the name Euthalia Hübner on p. 41. Thus on the principle of page priority, Euthalia Hübner should fall as to Symphaedra Hübner.

There are, however, very strong reasons against such an arrangement. The name Euthalia Hübner has been applied without challenge to lubentina Cram. and its numerous allies ever since the establishment of the name by Hübner one hundred and sixteen years ago. On the other hand, the name Symphaedra Hübner has hardly ever been used except to distinguish a single species, alcandra Hübner (= nais Forster), from the other species of Euthalia Hübner. Bingham (1905, Fauna Brit. Ind. Butt. 1 : 271) and Fruhstorfer (1913, in Seitz, Grossschmett. Erde 9 : 680) have, however, shown that there are no structural characters by which alcandra Hübner (= nais Forster) can be distinguished from lubentina Cram.

The position is, therefore, that a strict application of the Code would:

(i) deprive Papilio lubentina Cram., 1777, and its numerous congeners of the generic name Euthalia Hübner by which they have been known universally ever since its establishment by Hübner in 1818;  
(ii) transfer those species to the genus Symphaedra Hübner, a name which has hardly ever been used except (mistakenly) to distinguish alcandra Hübner (= nais Forster) generically from lubentina Cram. and its congeners.

I am of the opinion:

(a) that it would be highly undesirable to disturb the universally accepted use of the name Euthalia Hübner, [1818], for Papilio lubentina Cram., 1777, and its congeners, by transferring them to the genus Symphaedra Hübner, [1818], and  
(b) that the strict application of the rules of the International Code in this case would clearly result in greater confusion than uniformity.

3. Commissioner Hemming went on to say that, jointly with Mr. N. D. Riley, he was submitting to the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature a recommendation that, in the

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2 The correct date of this name is [1819]. See footnote i.

3 As the dates of publication of the Parts in which Cramer’s *Uitlandsche Kapellen* was published can only be determined by the inspection of a copy still in original wrappers, the dates of names published in this work should be cited in squares brackets.
exercise of the plenary power conferred upon them by the International Zoological Congress, the Commission should as soon as possible take the steps laid down by the Congress for the promulgation of an Opinion to the following effect:

The name *Euthalia* Hübn... to the following effect:

The name *Euthalia* Hübn... to the following effect:

II.—THE SUBSEQUENT HISTORY OF THE CASE.

4. As a first step the International Commission decided to invite the International Committee on Entomological Nomenclature to report on the present application. This case was accordingly considered by the International Committee at their meeting held at Madrid in the second week of September 1935 during the Sixth International Congress of Entomology. After careful consideration, the International Committee on Entomological Nomenclature agreed to recommend the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature to take such steps as they might consider necessary under their plenary powers to secure that the name *Symphaedra* Hübn... not replace the name *Euthalia* Hübn... as the generic name for *Papilio lubentina* Cramer, [1777], and the large number of species congeneric therewith.

5. This and other recommendations adopted by the International Committee on Entomological Nomenclature at their Madrid meeting were confirmed by the Sixth International Congress of Entomology at the Concilium Plenum held at Madrid on 12th September 1935.

III.—THE CONCLUSION REACHED BY THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON ZOOLOGICAL NOMENCLATURE.

6. When the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature met at Lisbon immediately after the close of the Sixth International Congress of Entomology in September 1935, they found themselves confronted with a large number of cases involving proposals for the suspension of the rules, in respect of some of which advertisements had not been published or, if published, had
not been published for the prescribed period, owing to the illness of Dr. C. W. Stiles, Secretary to the Commission, or for other causes. In these circumstances, the Commission decided at their meeting held on the morning of Monday, 16th September 1935 (Lisbon Session, 2nd Meeting, Conclusion 9), that immediate consideration should be given to all cases submitted to the Commission that, in their judgment, had reached the stage at which a decision could properly be taken; that the By-Laws of the Commission should be suspended during the Lisbon Session to such extent as might be necessary to give effect to this decision; and that, in so far as this procedure involved taking decisions "under suspension of the rules" in cases where the prescribed advertisement procedure had not been complied with, the cases in question should be duly advertised as soon as might be practicable after the conclusion of the Lisbon Congress and that no Opinion should be rendered and published thereon until after the expiry of a period of one year from the date on which the said advertisement was despatched to the prescribed journals for publication. The case of the name *Euthalia* Hübner, [1819], was one of the cases in question and was accordingly dealt with under the above procedure.

7. This case was considered by the International Commission later in the course of the meeting referred to above (Lisbon Session, 2nd Meeting, Conclusion 22), when it was agreed:

(a) to "suspend the rules" in the case of the following generic names:

(v) *Euthalia* Hübner, [1819], *Verz. bek. Schmett.* (3) : 41

(f) to declare that page precedence shall not be invoked to secure precedence for *Symphaedra* Hübner, [1819], *Verz. bek. Schmett.* (3) : 40 (type: *Symphaedra alcandra* Hübner, [1819], *ibid.* (3) : 40) over *Euthalia* Hübner, [1819], *Verz. bek. Schmett.* (3) : 41 (type: *Papilio lubentina* Cramer, [1777]); that the name *Euthalia* Hübner is therefore valid; but that this decision would not affect the validity of *Symphaedra* Hübner, [1819], if and when it may be desired on taxonomic grounds to place *Symphaedra alcandra* Hübner, [1819], and *Papilio lubentina* Cramer, [1777], in different genera;

(i) to add the generic names . . . *Euthalia* Hübner, [1819], . . . to the Official List of Generic Names, with the types indicated above;

(l) to render Opinions in the sense of (a) to (k) above.

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4 Only those portions of Conclusion 22 which refer to the present case are here quoted. For the full text of Conclusion 22, see 1943. *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* 1 : 20–23.
8. The foregoing decisions were embodied in paragraph 28 of the report which at their meeting held on the morning of Wednesday, 18th September 1935, the Commission (Lisbon Session, 5th Meeting, Conclusion 6) unanimously agreed to submit to the Twelfth International Congress of Zoology. That report was unanimously approved by the Section on Nomenclature at its joint meeting with the International Commission held on the afternoon of the same day. It was thereupon submitted to the Twelfth International Congress of Zoology by which it was unanimously approved and adopted at the Concilium Plenum held on the afternoon of Saturday, 21st September 1935, the last day of the Congress.

9. In accordance with the decision taken by the Commission at Lisbon in regard to their procedure at that Session (paragraph 6 above), this case was duly advertised in 1936 in two or more of the journals specified in the Resolution adopted by the Ninth International Congress of Zoology at its meeting held at Monaco in March 1913, by which the said International Congress conferred upon the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature plenary power to suspend the rules as applied to any given case where, in the judgment of the Commission, the strict application of the rules would clearly result in greater confusion than uniformity. In the period that has elapsed since the advertisement in the said journals of the possible suspension of the rules as applied to the present case, no communication of any kind has been addressed to the Commission objecting to the issue of an Opinion in the terms proposed.

10. The present Opinion was concurred in by the twelve (12) Commissioners and Alternates present at the Lisbon Session of the International Commission, namely:

Commissioners: — Calman; Hemming; Jordan; Pellegrin; Peters; and Stejneger.
Alternates: — do Amaral vice Cabrera; Ohshima vice Esaki; Bradley vice Stone; Beier vice Handlirsch; Arndt vice Richter; and Mortensen vice Apstein.

11. The present Opinion was dissented from by no Commissioner or Alternate present at the Lisbon Session. Nor since that Session has any Commissioner who was neither present on that

occasion nor represented thereat by an Alternate indicated disagreement with the conclusions then reached by the Commission in this matter.

12. The following five (5) Commissioners who were not present at Lisbon nor represented thereat by Alternates did not vote on the above Opinion:—

Bolivar y Pieltain; Chapman; Fantham; Silvestri; and Stiles.

13. At the time that the vote was taken on the present Opinion there was one (1) vacancy in the Commission consequent upon the death of Commissioner Horváth.

IV.—AUTHORITY FOR THE ISSUE OF THE PRESENT OPINION.

Whereas the Ninth International Congress of Zoology at its meeting held at Monaco in March 1913, adopted a Resolution conferring upon the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature, acting for the International Congress of Zoology, plenary power to suspend the rules as applied to any given case where, in the judgment of the Commission, the strict application of the rules would clearly result in greater confusion than uniformity, provided that not less than one year’s notice of the possible suspension of the rules as applied to the said case should be given in two or more of five journals specified in the said Resolution, and provided that the vote in the Commission was unanimously in favour of the proposed suspension of the rules; and

Whereas the suspension of the rules is required to give valid force to the provisions of the present Opinion as set out in the summary thereof; and

Whereas not less than one year’s notice of the possible suspension of the rules as applied to the present case has been given to two or more of the journals specified in the Resolution adopted by the Ninth International Congress of Zoology at its meeting held at Monaco in March 1913; and

Whereas the vote in the Commission at their Lisbon Session was unanimously in favour of the issue of an Opinion in terms of the present Opinion;
Now, therefore,

I, Francis Hemming, Secretary to the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature, acting in virtue of all and every the powers conferred upon me in that behalf by reason of holding the said Office of Secretary to the International Commission, hereby announce the said Opinion on behalf of the International Commission, acting for the International Congress of Zoology, and direct that it be rendered and printed as Opinion Number One Hundred and Sixty Seven (Opinion 167) of the said Commission.

In faith whereof I, the undersigned Francis Hemming, Secretary to the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature, have signed the present Opinion.

Done in London, this first day of July, Nineteen Hundred and Forty Three, in a single copy, which shall remain deposited in the archives of the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature.

Secretary to the International Commission
on Zoological Nomenclature.

Francis Hemming
THE PUBLICATIONS OF THE COMMISSION.

(obtainable at the Publications Office of the Commission at 41, Queen’s Gate, London, S.W.7.)

Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature.

This journal has been established by the International Commission as their Official Organ in order to provide a medium for the publication of:

(a) proposals on zoological nomenclature submitted to the International Commission for deliberation and decision;
(b) comments received from, and correspondence by the Secretary with, zoologists on proposals published in the Bulletin under (a) above; and
(c) papers on nomenclatorial implications of developments in taxonomic theory and practice.

The Bulletin was established in 1943. So far, six Parts have been published. Further Parts are in the press.

Opinions and Declarations Rendered by the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature.

The above work is being published in three volumes concurrently, namely:

Volume 1. This volume will contain Declarations 1–9 (which have never previously been published) and Opinions 1–133 (the original issue of which is now out of print). Parts 1–20 (containing Declarations 1–9 and Opinions 1–ii) have now been published. Further Parts will be published shortly.

Volume 2. This volume will be issued in 52 Parts, comprising all the decisions taken by the International Commission at their meeting at Lisbon in 1935, namely Declarations 10–12 (with Roman pagination) and Opinions 134–181 (with Arabic pagination). Part 52 will contain the index and title page of the volume. Parts 1–37, containing Declarations 10–12 and Opinions 134–167, have now been published. Further Parts will be published shortly.

Volume 3. This volume, which commenced with Opinion 182, will contain the Opinions adopted by the International Commission since their meeting at Lisbon in 1935. Parts 1–11 (containing Opinions 182–192) have now been published. Further Parts will be published as soon as possible.
APPEAL FOR FUNDS

The International Commission appeal earnestly to all institutions and individuals interested in the development of zoological nomenclature to contribute, according to their means, to the Commission’s Special (Publications) Fund. Of the total sum of £1,800 required to enable the Commission to issue all the publications now awaiting printing, donations amounting to £969 16s. 1d. were received up to 30th June 1945. Additional contributions are urgently needed in order to enable the Commission to continue their work without interruption. Contributions of any amount, however small, will be most gratefully received.

Contributions should be sent to the International Commission at their Publications Office, 41, Queen’s Gate, London, S.W. 7, and made payable to the “International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature or Order” and crossed “Account payee. Coutts & Co.”.

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