OPINION 1720

Cycloceras M’Coy, 1844 (Mollusca, Nautiloidea): C. laevigatum
M’Coy, 1844 designated as the type species, and a neotype designated for C. laevigatum

Ruling

(1) Under the plenary powers:
   (a) all previous fixations of type species for the nominal genus Cycloceras M’Coy, 1844 are hereby set aside and Cycloceras laevigatum M’Coy, 1844 is designated as the type species;
   (b) all previous fixations of type specimens for Cycloceras laevigatum M’Coy, 1844 are hereby set aside and specimen no. GSI: F03400 in the Geological Survey of Ireland (figured by Foord, 1897, pl. 5, figs. 1a, 1b) is designated as the neotype.

(2) The name Cycloceras M’Coy, 1844 (gender: neuter), type species designated in (1)(a) above Cycloceras laevigatum M’Coy, 1844, is hereby placed on the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology.

(3) The name laevigatum M’Coy, 1844, as published in the binomen Cycloceras laevigatum and as defined by the neotype designated in (1)(b) above (specific name of the type species of Cycloceras M’Coy, 1844), is hereby placed on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology.

History of Case 2753

An application for the conservation of usage of Cycloceras M’Coy, 1844 by the designation of Cycloceras laevigatum M’Coy, 1844 as the type species, and the designation of a neotype for C. laevigatum, was received from Dr Kathleen Histon (Trinity College, Dublin, Ireland) on 12 January 1990. After correspondence the case was published in BZN 48: 97–99 (June 1991). Notice of the case was sent to appropriate journals.

It was noted on the voting paper that, as mentioned in para. 7 of the application, Croneis (1926) noted that ‘the genotype of Perigrammoceras is a species which probably should be designated as the genotype of the original Cycloceras of M’Coy’. He treated Perigrammoceras Foerste, 1924 ‘as a junior objective synonym of Cycloceras M’Coy’. However, C. laevigatum M’Coy, 1844 was founded on specimen F.7212 in the National Museum of Ireland (see paras. 1 and 9), whilst O. laevigatum sensu Foerste (1924), the basis of Perigrammoceras, was based on Foord’s specimen F03402 in the Geological Survey of Ireland (paras. 6 and 9).

Croneis’s type designation for Cycloceras was only tentative and did not refer to laevigatum in its original (M’Coy) sense. The designation was therefore invalid and proposal (1) in para. 11 of the application, which sought to set aside all previous type designations for Cycloceras, was amended on the voting paper to omit the words ‘prior to that by Croneis (1926) of Cycloceras laevigatum M’Coy, 1844’.

The specimen proposed as the neotype of Cycloceras laevigatum M’Coy (no. GSI: F03400) was that figured by Foord (1897, pl. 5, figs. 1a, 1b) and by Sweet (1964, p. K259, figs. 186 2a, 2b) in the Treatise on Invertebrate Paleontology.
Decision of the Commission

On 1 December 1992 the members of the Commission were invited to vote on the proposals published in BZN 48: 99, with the amendments noted above. At the close of the voting period on 1 March 1993 the votes were as follows:

Affirmative votes — 29: Bayer, Bock, Bouchet, Cocks, Cogger, Corliss, Dupuis, Hahn, Halvorsen, Heppell, Holthuis, Kabata, Kraus, Lehtinen, Macpherson, Mahnert, Martins de Souza, Minelli, Nielsen, Nye, Ride, Savage, Schuster, Starobogatov, Štys, Thompson, Trjapitzin, Uéno, Willink

Negative votes — none.

Original references

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

Cycloceras M'Coy, 1844. A synopsis of the characters of the Carboniferous Limestone fossils of Ireland, p. 6.

laevigatum, Cycloceras, M'Coy, 1844. A synopsis of the characters of the Carboniferous Limestone fossils of Ireland, p. 10.

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