Accordingly, in addition to the proposals on BZN 46: 120–121, I ask the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature:

(1) to use its plenary powers to suppress the names Tychea Koch, 1857 and graminis Koch, 1857, as published in the binomen Tychea graminis, for the purposes of the Principle of Priority but not for those of the Principle of Homonymy;

(2) to place on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Generic Names in Zoology the name Tychea Koch, 1857, as suppressed in (1) above;

(3) to place on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Specific Names in Zoology the name graminis Koch, 1857, as published in the binomen Tychea graminis and as suppressed in (1) above.

[These supplementary proposals are supported by Dr Y. Ben-Dov].

Additional references


Kirkaldy, G.W. 1906. Catalogue of the genera of the hemipterous family Aphidae, with their typical species, together with a list of the species described as new from 1885 to 1905. The Canadian Entomologist, 38: 9–18.


(2) P.K. Tubbs

Executive Secretary, International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature

As first proposed, in the Entomologist's Monthly Magazine, 14: 35 (see Dr Danzig's comment above), the specific name graminis Lichtenstein, 1877 was formally an unjustified emendation (replacement name) of radicumgraminis Fonscolombe, 1834 (see BZN 46: 119, para. 2).

For procedural propriety, proposal (1) in BZN 46: 120, para. 12 should be replaced by:

'(1) to use its plenary powers to rule that the name graminis Lichtenstein, 1877, as published in the binomen Fonscolombia graminis, is to be treated as the specific name of a then new nominal species, now defined by the type specimen designated by Ben-Dov & Matile-Ferrero, 1989.'

Acceptance of this proposal would fix the type species of Fonscolombia Lichtenstein, 1877 as F. graminis by monotypy (cf. proposal (2) on BZN 46: 121).
Comments on the valid name for the butterfly known as ‘Colias alfacariensis’ Ribbe, 1905 or ‘Colias australis’ Verity, 1911 (Insecta, Lepidoptera) (Case 2617; see BZN 45: 29–32)

(1) L.B. Holthuis

Rijksmuseum van Natuurlijke Historie, Postbus 9517, 2300 RA Leiden, The Netherlands

The authors are incorrect in their interpretation (BZN 45: 30, para. 5) of the expression ‘a number of individuals within a species’ in the Code definition of ‘aberration’: it applies to a population as to any other set of individuals.

The names alfacariensis Ribbe, 1905 and australis Verity, 1911 are both unavailable, and it is up to the authors to find the first available use of alfacariensis or australis.

(2) E.J. Reissinger

Kemnaterstrasse 31/1, D-8950 Kaufbeuren, Fed. Rep. Germany

S. Wagener


(1) Ribbe (1905, p. 137) described a new ‘Form’ [sic] of Colias hyale from Andalusia but unfortunately the ‘ab.’ in the name Colias hyale ab. alfacariensis formally renders the name unavailable under Article 45f(ii) of the Code, although ‘Form’ denotes a subspecies (Article 45g(ii)).

(2) On the other hand, following German linguistic usage, it is quite clear that Ribbe was not describing an aberrant or seasonal morph, but stated clearly that the taxon was characteristic of a particular geographical area. In the contemporary literature the use of ‘var.’, ‘form’ and ‘ab.’ was not clearly differentiated. In 1906 (p. 134) and 1907 (p. 89) Ribbe himself mentioned ‘Colias hyale v. alfacariensis’, but unfortunately he did not refer to his 1905 description and thereby make the name available.

(3) Verity’s 1911 (p. 347; cf. BZN 45: 30, para. 6) description of the ‘race’ australis from Andalusia appeared in January 1911; in October his Index Systématicque (p. xxxiv) explicitly showed that the word ‘race’ was to be interpreted as infrasubspecific (see BZN 45: 30, para. 8). Entirely formally, australis could be held to be available from January 1911. Whether available or not, it is now evident that alfacariensis and australis are synonyms for a distinct species of butterfly (Berger, 1944, 1945), known in English as Berger’s Clouded Yellow.

(4) Considered from their intentions, it is quite clear that Ribbe (1905) wanted to describe a ‘Form’ or ‘Varietas’ (subspecies) whereas Verity (1911) was describing what in his view was an infrasubspecific taxon.

(5) Verity (1916, p. 99) described and gave the name calida to the Colias hyale of the summer generation (only) from Tuscany; from taxonomic considerations it is known that he was dealing with Colias alfacariensis/australis. In 1923 Verity & Querci (1923, p. 15) applied ‘Colias hyale, L., race calida, Vrty.’ to specimens of both generations, and the name calida Verity, 1916 is available under Article 45 of the Code (see Cockayne, 1952, p. 166), or from Verity & Querci, 1923, under Article 10c. It would be destabilizing to use this name for the entire species.

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