# **OPINION 1611**

# Heliophanus kochii Simon, 1868 (Arachnida, Araneae): specific name conserved

# Ruling

(1) Under the plenary powers the specific name albosignatus L. Koch, 1867, as published in the binomen *Heliophanus albosignatus*, is hereby suppressed for the purposes of the Principle of Priority but not for those of the Principle of Homonymy.

(2) The name kochii Simon, 1868, as published in the binomen Heliophanus kochii, is

hereby placed on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology.

(3) The name albosignatus L. Koch, 1867, as published in the binomen Heliophanus albosignatus and as suppressed in (1) above, is hereby placed on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Specific Names in Zoology.

# **History of Case 2647**

An application for the conservation of the specific name of one of the jumping spiders, *Heliophanus kochii* Simon, 1868, but with the spelling *kochi*, was received from Dr J. Prószyński (*Zaklad Zoologii WSPR*, *Siedlce*, *Poland*) on 4 March 1988. The application sought the suppression of the senior subjective synonym *albosignatus* L. Koch, 1867. After correspondence the case was published in BZN 46: 108–109 (June 1989). Notice of the case was sent to appropriate journals.

The application was supported by Mr F.R. Wanless (Department of Zoology, The Natural History Museum, London, U.K.).

It was noted on the voting papers that a recent major monograph by Wesolowska (1986) on the genus *Heliophanus* C.L. Koch, 1835 uses the spelling *kochi*; see also BZN **46**:108–109, para. 5.

The proposals of para. 6 on BZN 46: 109, (1)(a) for the suppression of the specific name *albosignatus* L. Koch, 1867, and (1)(b) that *kochi* should be deemed to be the correct spelling of the specific name first published as *kochii* by Simon (1868), were presented separately for voting.

#### **Decision of the Commission**

On 1 March 1990 the members of the Commission were invited to vote on the proposals published in BZN 46: 109, amended as above. At the close of the voting period on 1 June 1990 the votes were as follows:

Proposal (1)(a). Affirmative votes — 19: Bayer, Bock, Cocks, Corliss, Hahn, Halvorsen, Heppell, Kabata, Kraus, Martins de Souza, Mroczkowski, Nielsen, Nye, Ride, Savage, Starobogatov, Thompson, Trjapitzin, Willink

Negative votes — 7: Cogger, Holthuis, Lehtinen, Macpherson, Mahnert, Minelli and Uéno.

Proposal (1)(b). Affirmative votes — 13: Bock, Corliss, Halvorsen, Kraus, Lehtinen, Minelli, Nielsen, Nye, Ride, Starobogatov, Thompson, Trjapitzin, Willink

Negative votes — 13: Bayer, Cocks, Cogger, Hahn, Heppell, Holthuis, Kabata, Macpherson, Mahnert, Martins de Souza, Mroczkowski, Savage and Uéno.

Schuster was on leave of absence.

Proposal (1)(a) was thus carried, but since there was no majority for proposal (1)(b) the name *kochii* Simon, 1868 is conserved with its original spelling.

Dupuis abstained from both votes, commenting 'Je crains que les habitudes de Simon, en matière de nomenclature, aient comporté beaucoup de précipitation et diverses négligences. Je ne peux donc pas me prononcer sur la confiance aveugle qu'on paraît lui accorder en matière de taxonomie'. Heppell commented that 'the Commission should not be asked to rule on the correct spelling of individual specific names which differ only in an –i or –ii termination. It is already difficult enough in many cases to discover which variant is the correct original spelling, and to require zoologists to consult also the Official Lists for such a trivial matter seems quite wrong. Many zoologists (and zoological editors) routinely employ a single –i termination because of their incorrect interpretation of the rules. Others believe that the –i and –ii terminations can simply be regarded as permissible alternatives. It would be far better to have such a simple remedy to this vexed and continuing problem than to have individual cases determined piecemeal on the basis of perceived usage'.

# Original references

The following are the original references to the names placed on an Official List and an Official Index by the ruling given in the present Opinion:

albosignatus, Heliophanus, L. Koch, 1867, Verhandlungen der Zoologisch-Botanischen Gesellschaft in Wien, 17: 871.

kochii, Heliophanus, Simon, 1868, Annales de la Société Entomologique de France, (4)8: 699.



International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature. 1990. "Opinion 1613." *The Bulletin of zoological nomenclature* 47, 226–227.

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