

Case 2457

***Alcyonidium* Lamouroux, 1813 (Bryozoa): proposed conservation by the suppression of *Fucus* Hudson, 1762 and *Ulva* Hudson, 1778 in their zoological sense**

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Abstract. The purpose of this application is to protect the name of the important bryozoan genus *Alcyonidium* Lamouroux, 1813 from the names *Fucus* and *Ulva*. When using these names for algae Hudson (1762 and 1778) included species now classified as Bryozoa, thereby inadvertently creating zoological genera. There appears no need to conserve the butterfly generic name *Ulva* Lindsey, 1925, now treated as a junior subjective synonym.

1. The name *Alcyonidium* Lamouroux, 1813 is used for a widespread genus of bryozoans, many of them very abundant. Potential confusion arises from the fact that in early work bryozoans were often classified as algae, and these listings in a formal sense (Article 10f of the Code) establish zoological genera, even though this was not the intention of the authors.

2. We consider that the use of the names *Fucus* and *Ulva* for Bryozoa should be suppressed to conserve *Alcyonidium*, and possibly other bryozoan genera. *Fucus* and *Ulva* are very important botanical genera of seaweeds, named before 1758, while various *Alcyonidium* species are amongst the most abundant epiphytes of marine algae. Clearly it would be confusing to have to refer to *Fucus* growing on *Fucus* or *Ulva* upon *Ulva*, despite the fact that under Article 1c of the Code the zoological names are independent of botanical practice.

3. *Alcyonidium* Lamouroux, 1813 (p. 285) has been discussed in very many works over a long period, and a representative list has been given to the Commission Secretariat. In describing the genus Lamouroux said (p. 286) '... il n'y en a même qu'une seule de bien connue, c'est l'*ulva diaphana* des auteurs ... sur laquelle j'ai fait les observations que m'ont engagé à la considérer comme étant le type d'un ordre et d'un genre particulier ...' ['... there is only one of these which is well known, this is the *Ulva diaphana* of authors ... on which I have made observations which have persuaded me to consider it as being the type of a special order and genus ...']. The reference '*Fl. Dan. etc.*' given by Lamouroux for *Ulva diaphana* leads to Vahl (1799, fasc. 21, p. 7 and pl. 1245). Vahl in turn refers only to *Ulva diaphana* Hudson, 1778 (p. 570), which is

therefore by original designation the type species of *Alcyonidium* (see also Thorpe & Winston (1986)). *Ulva* Hudson, 1778 is an 'inadvertent' zoological genus.

4. The name *Ulva* was apparently not used after 1813 for a bryozoan, and disappeared from zoology. Lindsey (1925, p. 105) noticed that the African skipper butterfly generic name *Hyda* Mabilie, 1889 was a junior homonym, and proposed *Ulva* as a replacement; the nominal type species of *Hyda*, *H. micacea*, is by Article 67 h of the Code also the type species of *Ulva* Lindsey, 1925. This genus is now treated as a subjective synonym of *Serangesa* Moore, 1881, with *Hyda micacea* being regarded as a synonym of *Serangesa tertullianus* (Fabricius, 1793), and there is no obvious need to conserve *Ulva* Lindsey, 1925, which is in any case a junior homonym of *Ulva* Hudson.

5. Hudson (1762, p. 471) included in his 'seaweed' genus *Fucus* a species which he called *gelatinosus*, and it is clear from his work and the synonyms given that this was a bryozoan which would currently be placed in *Alcyonidium*. *Fucus* Hudson, 1762, like his *Ulva*, is a valid zoological genus by virtue of Article 10 f, but it appears never to have been used as such. Roth (1806, fasc. 3, p. 103) discussed *Fucus*, and Sherborn (1926, p. 2530) considered that some of Roth's species may have been bryozoans. Neave (1940) did not list *Fucus* as an animal genus.

6. For the reasons above it is desirable to suppress the names *Fucus* and *Ulva* in their zoological sense. The earliest author known to have included bryozoa in these algal genera is Hudson, 1762 and 1778 respectively; however, it is possible that even earlier inadvertent 'creations' of the zoological genera may exist.

7. The International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature is accordingly asked:

- (1) to use its plenary powers to suppress the generic names *Fucus* Hudson, 1762 and *Ulva* Hudson, 1778, and any other zoological use of those names, for the purposes of the Principle of Priority but not for those of the Principle of Homonymy;
- (2) to place on the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology the name *Alcyonidium* Lamouroux, 1813 (gender: neuter), type species by original designation, *Ulva diaphana* Hudson, 1778;
- (3) to place on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology the name *diaphana* Hudson, 1778, as published in the binomen *Ulva diaphana* (specific name of the type species of *Alcyonidium* Lamouroux, 1813);
- (4) to place the following names on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Generic Names in Zoology:
 - (a) *Fucus* Hudson, 1762, and any other zoological use of *Fucus*, as suppressed in (1) above; and
 - (b) *Ulva* Hudson, 1778, and any other zoological use of *Ulva*, as suppressed in (1) above.

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