LINGULA BRUGUIÈRE, [1797] (BRACHIOPODA, INARTICULATA); PROPOSED DESIGNATION OF A TYPE-SPECIES UNDER THE PLENARY POWERS. Z.N.(S.) 1598

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The well known inarticulate brachiopod genus Lingula Bruguière, [1791], type-genus of the family-group taxon Lingulidae Menke, 1828, is seemingly based on a misidentified type-species and in accordance with the Code (Arts. 41 and 65) the case is submitted to the International Commission with an appeal for the use of the plenary powers to designate a type-species which will ensure stability of usage of the generic name.

2. The generic name Lingula was published by Bruguière in the “Tableau Encyclopédique et Méthodique des Trois Règles de la Nature. Vers, Coquilles, Mollusques et Polypiers”, pl. 250. This work was issued in several parts, but according to Sherborn and Woodward, (1906, p. 581), the section consisting of plates 190-286 was published in 1797. Neither definition nor description of Lingula was provided, but the name is available from that date since it was accompanied by three illustrations (Bruguière, [1797], pl. 250, fig. 1a, 1b and 1c). There were no originally included species.

3. In the “Tableau Encyclopédique et Méthodique, etc. Liste des objets”, p. 151 (published in 1827 according to Sherborn and Woodward, 1906, p. 581) fig. 1 of pl. 250 (published 30 years earlier) is said to be of Lingula anatina. This has probably led some authors (e.g. Hall and Clarke, 1892, p. 5; Goryansky, 1960, p. 174) to regard Lingula anatina Lamarck as the type-species of the genus. However, under the Code, Art. 69(a) (ii) (2) the type-species is Patella unguis Linnaeus, by subsequent monotypy, Cuvier, [1797], p. 435. Cuvier spelt the generic name Ligula on page 435, but this appears to have been an “incorrect subsequent spelling” rather than an “emendation” for the name is correctly spelt in the index to the work on page 705. Patella unguis has been accepted as the type-species of the genus by many workers including Thomson 1927, p. 124 and Cooper, 1944, p. 285 and has commonly been regarded as a synonym of Lingula anatina (Thomson, 1927, p. 124; Goryansky, 1960, p. 174).

4. Patella unguis was erected in 1758 by Linnaeus (p. 783) who also cited references to two figures, “Rumph. mus. t. 40. f. L” and “Pet. gaz. t. 32 f. 9”. The citation of these two references has been the cause of considerable confusion for one figure (Petiver, 1704, Tab. XXXII, fig. 9) is of a species of Lingula from the Philippines, the other (Rumphius, 1705, pl. XL, fig. L) is of a gastropod, which in current usage would be referred to the genus Scutus de Montfort, 1810 (Lamy and André, 1941. p. 190). Although this situation has been realised since at least 1855 (Hanley, 1855, p. 425) the binomen Patella unguis has continued to be employed for both gastropod and brachiopod.

5. Hanley (1855, p. 425) claimed that there were no specimens of Lingula in the Linnean cabinet and that the “marked type” of Patella unguis in that collection was a gastropod. Hanley clearly regarded this specimen as what today would be called a lectotype and Lamy and André (1941, p. 190) accept
this specimen, which still exists in the Linnean Collection of the British Museum (Natural History), as the "type" of *Patella unguis*.

6. Cuvier ([1797], p. 435) in designating *Patella unguis* as the type-species of *Lingula* "mis-identified" the species, regarding it as a brachiopod, for under the Code, the genus *Lingula* Bruguière, [1797], types-species *Patella unguis* Linnaeus, is a gastropod and a senior subjective synonym of *Scutus* de Montfort, 1810.

7. To prevent the confusion which would arise from strict application of the Code and to preserve the continuity of meaning of the nominal family-group taxon LINGULIDAE, it is desirable that the plenary powers be used to designate a type-species in harmony with the present usage of the generic name *Lingula*. The most suitable species is seemingly *Lingula anatina* Lamarck, 1801, p. 141, which previously has erroneously been regarded as the type-species.

8. In view of the facts set out in the proceeding paragraphs, I request the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature:

   (1) to use its plenary powers

   (a) to set aside all type selections for the genus *Lingula* Bruguière, [1797], made prior to the Ruling now asked for and

   (b) having done so, to designate *Lingula anatina* Lamarck, 1801 as type-species of the foregoing genus;

   (2) to place the following name on the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology: *Lingula* Bruguière, [1797] (gender: feminine) (type-species by designation under the plenary powers under (b) above: *Lingula anatina* Lamarck, 1801);

   (3) to place the following name on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology: *anatina* Lamarck, 1801, as published in the combination *Lingula anatina* (type-species of *Lingula* Bruguière, [1797]);

   (4) to place the following name on the Official List of Family Group Names in Zoology: LINGULIDAE Menke, 1828 nom. correct. Gray, 1840, ex LINGULACEAE Menke, 1828 (type-genus *Lingula* Bruguière, [1797]).

REFERENCES


HANLEY, S. 1855. *Ipsa Linnaei Conchylia*, pp. 1–556, pls. I–V.


https://doi.org/10.5962/bhl.part.28493.