Case 2611

Cryptocoeloma Miers, 1884 (Crustacea, Decapoda): proposed designation of Cryptocoeloma haswelli Rathbun, 1923, as type species

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Abstract. The purpose of this application is to designate the nominal species Cryptocoeloma haswelli Rathbun, 1923, as type species of the crab genus Cryptocoeloma Miers, 1884, since the original nominal type by monotypy, Pilumns fimbriatus, was based on misidentified material. The proposed designation is in accordance with the usage of the last 60 years.

1. Cryptocoeloma was established by Miers (1884, p. 227) for a single species which he indicated as Cryptocoeloma fimbriatum and gave as synonymy: ‘Pilumns fimbriatus, M.-Edwards, Hist. Nat. Crust. i.p. 416 (1834)?; Haswell, Cat. Austr. Crust. p. 66, pl. i. fig. 4 (1882)’. This species belongs to the family Pilumnidae Samouelle, 1819.

2. Miers stated that he had no doubt that his specimen was identical with the one described and figured by Haswell as Pilumns fimbriatus H. Milne Edwards, 1834 (p. 416) but that he was not certain that Haswell had identified his material correctly. In 1923, Rathbun (p. 111), realizing the misidentification, introduced the new name Cryptocoeloma haswelli for Haswell’s (1882) and Miers’ (1884) species. This name has since been accepted by all zoologists working with the species and has consistently been considered to be the type species of Cryptocoeloma.

3. The true Pilumns fimbriatus H. Milne Edwards, 1834, is at present placed in the genus Heteropilumns De Man (1895, p. 527). Indeed, when De Man (1895, p. 533) assigned H. Milne Edwards’ species to his new genus he distinctly excluded both Haswell’s and Miers’ material from P. fimbriatus.

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

(1) to use its plenary powers to set aside all previous fixations of type species for Cryptocoeloma Miers, 1884 and to designate Cryptocoeloma haswelli Rathbun, 1923;

(2) to place on the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology the name Cryptocoeloma Miers, 1884 (gender: neuter), type species by designation in (1) above Cryptocoeloma haswelli Rathbun, 1923;
(3) to place on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology the name *haswelli* Rathbun, 1923, as published in the binomen *Cryptocoeloma haswelli* (specific name of the type species of *Cryptocoeloma* Miers, 1884).

References


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DOI: https://doi.org/10.5962/bhl.part.342
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