Case No. 4

AMENDMENTS PROPOSED TO FACILITATE THE ADDING OF NAMES OF THE FAMILY-GROUP TO THE OFFICIAL LIST OF FAMILY-GROUP NAMES IN ZOOLOGY. Z.N.(S.) 1547

By J. Chester Bradley (President, International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature)

New Article. Article 38. General conservation of family-group names.—The Commission is authorized to add all names of the family-group that are believed to be in undisputed use, and the names of their type-genera, to the appropriate Official Lists, after having advertised their intent for a period of six months. Priority may be disregarded in such cases, and if it is not known which one is the type-species of the type-genus, the latter may be entered on the Official List with the qualification "in the sense as though (a certain specified species) were the type-species". If the family-group name is disputed, the Commission is empowered to decide which name is to be employed without having recourse to its plenary powers. It shall decide upon basis of priority or such other consideration as it deems will best serve continuity and universality of usage.

Zoologists are to continue to use such names in their customary sense pending decision of the Commission. They are invited to bring names that they regard as undisputed to the attention of the Commission as rapidly as possible. Zoologists are also requested to present disputed names of the family-group to the Commission with as full data as possible for decision, in order that the Official List of Family-Group Names may rapidly approximate completion.

In placing a name on the Official List of Family-Group Names in Zoology, it is to be understood that the Commission expresses no opinion as to the taxonomic validity of the taxon. [Art. 40a, b]

Renumber Article 38, Article 39

" " 39, Article 39a
" " 39a, Article 39b

Add to Article 23(a) the following:

(ii) if it is a name of the family-group accepted by the Commission in accordance with the provisions of Article 38;

(iii) if it is the type-genus of a name of the family-group accepted by the Commission in accordance with the provisions of Article 38.

Add to Article 42 a new paragraph:

(e) Conservation of the names of type-genera.—The names of the type-genera of certain taxa of the family-group are to be conserved in accordance with the provisions of Article 38.

Add to Article 67 a new paragraph:

(f) Type-species uncertain.—The names of certain genera that are type-genera of taxa of the family-group of which the type-species is not
known, may be placed on the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology in accordance with the provisions of Article 38 in the sense as though certain specified species were their type-species.

WITHDRAWAL OF THE PROPOSAL TO SUPPRESS THE GENERIC NAME
PUPA RÖDING, 1798. Z.N.(S.) 581

(see volume 18, pages 372–373)

By Henning Lemche (Universitetets Zoologiske Museum, Copenhagen, Denmark)

In Bull. zool. Nomencl. 19 : 258 pp. several authors have rejected my proposal concerning Pupa Röding because it is too late to change. May I explain that my application was presented in 1951 as a direct reaction to the proposal by Winckworth in 1945 of the family name Pupidae, which I found could hardly be tolerated when that same name had been used even in the Zoological Record up to 1931 for a family of pulmonates.

In the meantime, rules for family names have been established which will forever sink Winckworth’s name Pupidae into synonymy, and the name Pupa Röding has penetrated further into the literature. My reason for not withdrawing the whole proposal when I finally got the proofs of it, is the idea that it was better to ask my colleagues all over the world for their opinion instead of deciding myself. Now, when the answer seems to be unanimous, I hereby withdraw my proposal on the name Pupa Röding.

COMMENT ON PHASMIDAE vs. PHASMATIDAE. Z.N.(S.) 1167

By C. W. Wright (London)

I strongly support Dr. Key’s original request and Mr. Hemming’s comment to the effect that Phasmidae be corrected to Phasmatidae. Article 29 and Article 32 of the new Rules give a clear and unambiguous guide to practice, which should only be upset for the gravest reasons. There do not appear to be any such reasons in this case. Posterity has an indefinite future compared to which a few years incorrect usage ought not to weigh. In applying the last clause of the Preamble of the Rules, one hopes, the Commission looks not only to the individual case but to the stability of nomenclature as a whole: suspension of the Rules for trivial reasons will serve stability ill, for it will undermine the authority of the Rules on whose universal and automatic implementation real, long term stability wholly depends.

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