OPINION 1377

CHELYDRA OSCEOLA STEJNEGER, 1918 GIVEN NOMENCLATURAL PRECEDENCE OVER CHELYDRA LATICARINATA HAY, 1916 AND CHELYDRA SCULPTA HAY, 1916 (REPTILIA, TESTUDINES)

RULING.—(1) Under the plenary powers it is hereby ruled that the specific name osceola Stejneger, 1918, as published in the binomen Chelydra osceola is to be given nomenclatural precedence over laticarinata Hay, 1916, as published in the binomen Chelydra laticarinata, and sculpta Hay, 1916, as published in the binomen Chelydra sculpta, whenever it is considered to be a synonym of either of them.

(2) The name osceola Stejneger, 1918, as published in the binomen Chelydra osceola, is hereby placed on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology with an endorsement that it is to be given nomenclatural precedence over laticarinata Hay, 1916, as published in the binomen Chelydra laticarinata, and sculpta Hay, 1916, as published in the binomen Chelydra sculpta, whenever it is considered to be a synonym of either of them.

(3) The following names are hereby placed on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology with endorsements that neither is to be given priority over osceola Stejneger, 1918, as published in the binomen Chelydra osceola, when considered to be a synonym of that name:

(a) laticarinata Hay, 1916, as published in the binomen Chelydra laticarinata;

(b) sculpta Hay, 1916, as published in the binomen Chelydra sculpta.

HISTORY OF THE CASE Z.N.(S.)2282

An application for the conservation of Chelydra osceola Stejneger, 1918 was first received from Professor H. M. Smith, Dr R. B. Smith and Dr D. Chiszar (University of Colorado, Boulder, U.S.A.) on 19 September 1978. After some correspondence, a revised draft, proposing conditional suppression, was sent to the printer on 20 July 1983 and published in Bull. zool. Nom., vol. 40, pp. 225–227. Public notice of the possible use of plenary power in the case was given in the same part of the Bulletin as well as to ten general and three herpetological serials. A supportive comment was received from Dr P. C. H. Pritchard (Florida Audubon Society, Maitland, Florida, U.S.A.).

DECISION OF THE COMMISSION

On 16 September 1985 the members of the Commission were invited to vote under the Three-Month Rule on Voting Paper (1985) 49 for or
against the proposals set out in Bull. zool. Nom. vol. 40, p. 226. At the close of the voting period on 16 December 1985 the state of the voting was as follows:

Affirmative Votes—twenty-three (23) received in the following order: Melville, Holthuis, Cocks, Willink, Savage, Kabata, Mroczkowski, Corliss, Bayer, Alvarado, Uéno, Hahn, Starobogatov, Trjapitzin, Zheng, Cogger, Lehtinen, Schuster, Ride, Thompson, Halvorsen, Dupuis, Heppell

Negative Votes—one (1) Bernardi.

No votes were returned by Gruchy and Kraus.

Bernardi commented: 'Je vote contre parce que toute décision nomenclatorique me semble prématurée au sujet du Chelydra osceola puisqu’il n’est pas certain que les espèces fossiles C. laticarinata et C. sculpta sont cospécifiques avec C. osceola, il ne s’agit que de probabilités. Supposons, par exemple, qu’il s’agisse de sous-espèces chronologiques. On aurait C. osceola osceola 1918 et C. osceola laticarinata 1916. C’est peu satisfaisant à mon avis. La question ne se réduit donc pas à simple synonymie éventuelle'.

ORIGINAL REFERENCES

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


CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that the votes cast on Voting Paper (1985) 49 were cast as set out above, that the proposals contained in that voting paper have been duly adopted under the plenary powers, and that the decision so taken, being the decision of the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature, is truly recorded in the present Opinion No. 1377.

P. K. TUBBS
Executive Secretary
International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature
London
16 December 1985

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