OPINION 2085 (Case 3214)

Aegorhinus Erichson, 1834 (Insecta, Coleoptera): given precedence over Psuchocephalus Latreille, 1828

Abstract. The Commission has ruled that the generic name Aegorhinus Erichson, 1834, for a genus of South American weevils (family Curculionidae), is conserved by giving it precedence over the earlier name Psuchocephalus Latreille, 1828 whenever the two are considered to be synonyms. The name Psuchocephalus Latreille, 1828 was used as the valid name by Alonso-Zarazaga & Lyal in 1999.

Keywords. Nomenclature; taxonomy; Coleoptera; Curculionidae; Aegorhinus; Psuchocephalus; Aegorhinus phaleratus; Curculio leprosus; weevils; Argentina; Chile; Subantarctic subregion.

Ruling
(1) Under the plenary power it is hereby ruled that the name Aegorhinus Erichson, 1834 is given precedence over the name Psuchocephalus Latreille, 1828, whenever the two are considered to be synonyms.

(2) The following names are hereby placed on the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology:
(a) Aegorhinus Erichson, 1834 (gender: masculine), type species by monotypy Aegorhinus phaleratus Erichson, 1834, with the endorsement that it is to be given precedence over the name Psuchocephalus Latreille, 1828 whenever the two are considered to be synonyms;
(b) Psuchocephalus Latreille, 1828 (gender: masculine), type species by monotypy Curculio leprosus Olivier, 1807, with the endorsement that it is not to be given priority over the name Aegorhinus Erichson, 1834 whenever the two are considered to be synonyms.

(3) The following names are hereby placed on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology:
(a) phaleratus Erichson, 1834, as published in the binomen Aegorhinus phaleratus (specific name of the type species of Aegorhinus Erichson, 1834);
(b) vitulus Fabricius, 1775, as published in the binomen Curculio vitulus (senior synonym of Curculio leprosus Olivier, 1807, the specific name of the type species of Psuchocephalus Latreille, 1828).

(4) The name Psuphocephalus Imhoff, 1856 (an incorrect subsequent spelling of Psuchocephalus Latreille, 1828) is hereby placed on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Generic Names in Zoology.

History of Case 3214
An application to conserve the generic name Aegorhinus Erichson, 1834, for a genus of South American weevils (family Curculionidae), by giving it precedence over the earlier name Psuchocephalus Latreille, 1828, which was used as the valid name by Alonso-Zarazaga & Lyal in 1999, was received from Mario Elgueta (Museo
Nacional de Historia Natural, Santiago, Chile) and Guillermo Kuschel (Mt Roskill, Auckland, New Zealand) on 30 July 2001. After correspondence the case was published in BZN 59: 253–255. The title, abstract and keywords of the case were published on the Commission’s website. A comment from Alonso-Zarazaga & Lyal in support of the application was published in BZN 60: 144 (June 2003).

Decision of the Commission

On 1 March 2004 the members of the Commission were invited to vote on the proposals published in BZN 59: 254. At the close of the voting period on 1 June 2004 the votes were as follows: 21 Commissioners voted FOR the proposals, no Commissioners voted AGAINST, Bouchet, Calder and Ng were on leave of absence, no vote was received from Macpherson.

Original references

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


Psuchocephalus Imhoff, 1856, Versuch einer Einführung in das Studium der Koleopteren, p. 221.

vitulus, Curculio, Fabricius, 1775, Systema Entomologiae, p. 152.

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