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TYPE LOCALITIES AND NOMENCLATURE OF SOME  
AMERICAN PRIMATES, WITH REMARKS ON  
SECONDARY HOMONYMS

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Several problems of general zoological and nomenclatorial interest are presented in a recent publication entitled "Notes on the Primates of Suriname," by A. M. Husson (1957, *Studies on the fauna of Suriname and other Guyanas*, 1, (2): 13-40, 8 pls., 1 fig.).

Husson lists and describes the 8 species of monkeys known to occur in Suriname. The generic name he used for one of the monkeys is antedated and must be replaced. The type locality of each of two other species was restricted by him in a manner that failed to take into account some pertinent facts. The specific name of a fourth species was needlessly changed in conformity with notions which undermine the foundations of nomenclatorial stability.

Each objection is discussed here under a separate heading.

*Saguinus (Saguinus) midas midas* Linnaeus

*Simia Midas* Linnaeus, 1758, *Syst. Nat.*, ed. 10, 1:28.

*Marikina (Tamarin) midas*, Husson, 1957, *Studies on the Fauna of Suriname and other Guyanas*, 1, (2): 37.

*Type locality*.—"America"; restricted to Suriname by Schreber, 1775 (*Säugethiere*, 1:132).

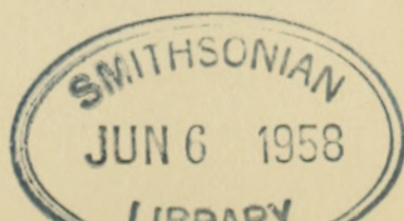
*Remarks*.—Husson has affirmed that the type locality of *Simia midas* was first restricted to Suriname by Schreber, 1775, then by Gmelin, 1789. No further action, such as "selection" of the "restriction," is required.

*Saguinus* Hoffmannsegg (1807, *Mag. Gesellsch. Naturf. Fr. Berlin*, 1:102), with type by monotypy, *Saguinus ursula* Hoffmannsegg [= *Saguinus tamarin* Link] antedates *Tamarin* Gray, 1870, with the same type species. *Saguinus* is also the first valid generic name for the group of marmosets characterized by normal lower canines.

The following genera and subgenera of the group are recognized.

Genus *Saguinus* Hoffmannsegg, 1807 (tamarins)

*Saguinus* Hoffmannsegg, 1807 (synonyms: *Leontocebus* Wagner, 1840; *Leontopithecus* Lesson, 1840; *Tamarin* Gray, 1870; *Cercopithecus* Gronov, 1763, rejected name; *Midas* Humboldt, 1812,





preoccupied; *Mystax* Gray, 1870, preoccupied; *Tamarinus* Trouessart, 1899).

*Oedipomidas* Reichenbach, 1862 (synonyms: *Oedipus* Lesson, 1840, preoccupied; *Hapanella* Gray, 1870).

*Marikina* Lesson, 1840 (synonym: *Seniocebus* Gray, 1870).

Genus *Leontideus* Cabrera, 1956 (little lion monkeys).

Synonyms: *Marikina* Reichenbach, 1862, not of Lesson, 1840; *Leontocebus* of authors, not Wagner, 1840 (see Cabrera, 1956, *Neotropicalia*, 2:45; Hershkovitz, 1957, *Proc. Biol. Soc. Washington*, 70:17).

Hill's classification of the marmosets in volume three of his monograph "Primates" (1957) has been taken into account in the above arrangement. It is proposed to review his work elsewhere.

*Ateles paniscus paniscus* Linnaeus.

*Simia Paniscus* Linnaeus, 1758, *Syst. Nat.*, ed. 10, 1:26.

*Ateles paniscus paniscus*, Husson, 1957, *Studies on the fauna of Suriname and other Guyanas*, 1, (2): 34.

*Type locality*.—"America meridionali: Brasilia"; redetermined as "America meridionali" by Linnaeus (1766, *Syst. Nat.* ed. 12, 1:37) and restricted to "La Guyane," i.e., French Guiana, by E. Geoffroy (1803, *Cat. Mann. Mus. Hist. Nat.*, Paris, p. 6; 1812, *Ann. Mus. Hist. Nat.*, Paris, 19:105).

*Remarks*.—As shown by Kellogg and Goldman (1944, *Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus.*, 96:15), the first, or 1758, Linnaean description of *Simia paniscus* is a composite of spider monkey and Brazilian howler, the *guariba* of Maregrave. In his 1776 account of *Simia paniscus*, Linnaeus recognized the composite nature of the earlier description and he dropped the reference to Brazil and the *guariba*. Linnaeus, therefore, as first reviser, eliminated Brazil as a necessary part of any future restricted type locality. Selection of Pernambuco, Brazil, where *Simia paniscus* does not occur, by Thomas (1911, *Proc. Zool. Soc. London*, 1911:127) can apply only to the *guariba*. Husson's redetermination of the type locality as Jamundá, Pará, on the assumption that the type locality must be Brazilian, is unwarranted.

*Cebus apella apella* Linnaeus

*Simia Apella* Linnaeus 1758, *Syst. Nat.* ed. 10, 1:28.

*Cebus apella apella*, Husson, 1957, *Studies on the fauna of Suriname and other Guyanas*, 1, (2): 26.

*Type locality*.—"America," restricted by Humboldt (1812, *Rec. Obs. Zool. Anat. Comp.*, 1:355) to "la Guyane françoise et la Terre-Ferme;" further restricted by E. Geoffroy (1812, *Ann. Mus. Hist. Nat.*, Paris, 19:109) to "la Guyane," i.e., French Guiana (see also Hershkovitz, 1955, *Journ. Mammal.*, 36:451).

*Remarks*.—Husson indicates that he has consulted the works cited above but he points only to Elliot as his "authority" for the claim that Suriname is the type locality of *Cebus apella*.

Secondary Homonyms and Status of the Name

*Cebus nigrivittatus* Wagner, 1848

The identification of *Cebus nigrivittatus* Wagner, 1848, as the un-



tufted species characterized by the wedge-shaped cap is accepted by Husson. This author, nevertheless, rejects the name because it had been treated once as a secondary homonym. Husson's position is derived from Pusch (1941, *Zeitschr. Säuget.*, 16:145), who combined *Saimiri* with *Cebus* and declared *Cebus nigrivittatus* Wagner, 1848, a junior secondary homonym of *Chrysothrix* [= *Saimiri*] *nigrivittatus* Wagner, 1846. In my revision of the untufted species of *Cebus* (1949, *Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus.*, 98:345), I denied Pusch's classification and the homonymy it entailed. Hudson also rejects Pusch's systematics but, paradoxically, strives to suffer its illusory consequences. Husson's arguments for dropping the name *Cebus nigrivittatus* Wagner, 1848, are a series of quotations from Follett's "An unofficial interpretation of the International Rules of Zoological Nomenclature . . .," a work issued in 1955 as "not published" and (p. i) "not to be quoted as authority for any nomenclatorial proposition." Husson also assists his reasoning by references to the "Copenhagen Decisions on Zoological Nomenclature," a quasi-official modification and clarification of certain Articles of the Rules. The existing Rules fail to distinguish between primary homonyms wholly subject to nomenclatorial discipline, and secondary homonyms which are essentially non-regulatory zoological, or philosophical, concepts.

Primary homonyms are objective or nomenclatorial homonyms. They are born homonyms and can never be anything else. There are comparatively few primary homonyms, and were it not for carelessness or ignorance there would be none. In contrast, nearly all secondary homonyms are subjective homonyms. They exist only as opinions, or illusions, that the animals bearing the names belong to genera other than the ones in which they were first described. There is no limit to the number of secondary homonyms that can be evoked in the minds of men and expressed in their schemes of classification. Every technical name proposed since the 10th edition of the *Systema Naturae* is a potential secondary homonym.

The problem of subjective secondary homonyms is by and large a zoological problem. It may also be a nomenclatorial problem but only transitorily. Its treatment should be on a corresponding transitory, or temporary, basis. The menace to nomenclatorial stability contained in the philosophy of "permanent rejection" of subjective secondary homonyms must be obvious. Pusch, acting in good faith, united only *Saimiri* with *Cebus* and produced one subjective secondary homonym. Another student, with equally good intentions, may, like Linnaeus, combine all Primates, except man, in but one genus. The secondary homonyms created by this drastic revision would result in wholesale elimination of universally accepted names if Husson's line of reasoning were followed.

The International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature cannot and must not pretend to exercise control or censorship over the minds or methods of zoologists and systematists. An author is free to create as many secondary homonyms as may be required to assert his concepts of classification. That author is free to rename as many secondary homonyms as he sees fit. At the same time, no ruling of the International Commission can make acceptance of such revisions compulsory



or, what is tantamount, oblige the student to recognize the nomenclatorial upheavals spawned by the revolutionary concept of "permanent rejection" of secondary homonyms.

Husson's application of the policy of "permanent rejection" of secondary homonyms illustrates the absurd and pernicious effects of the practice. The name *Cebus nigrivittatus* Wagner, 1848, is "permanently rejected" by Husson, because in the mind of one and only one author, it is a secondary homonym of *Chrysothrix nigrivittatus* Wagner, 1846. Husson (op. cit. p. 32) elects *Cebus olivaceus* Schomburgk, 1848, as the next available name for replacement. He also seems to be particularly elated that this move disposes of the problem of priority between *olivaceus* Schomburgk 1848 and *nigrivittatus* Wagner 1848. Actually, nothing is settled by this manipulation. The same devious reasoning that led Husson to reject *nigrivittatus* Wagner will oblige him to discard *olivaceus* Schomburgk. In his classification of mammals, Fischer (1829, Syn. Mamm. p. 41) includes the woolly monkey originally described as *Gastrimargus olivaceus* Spix, 1823, in his genus *Cebus*. This kills off *Cebus olivaceus* Schomburgk 1848. The next name in line for replacement is *Cebus castaneus* I. Geoffroy, 1851. Before adopting this binomial, however, it behooves the advocates of "permanent rejection" to examine every published work, whether by scholar, hack or crank, for possibilities of secondary homonymy. While the search goes on the writer rests with *Cebus nigrivittatus* Wagner, 1848, as the first valid name that must be used for the species in question.



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