Comments on the proposed conservation of the specific name *Artemia franciscana*

Kellogg, 1906 (Crustacea, Branchiopoda)

(Case 2728; see BZN 47: 178–183)

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It is with great interest that we have read the proposed conservation of the name of the broadly distributed North American brine shrimp species *Artemia franciscana*.

Since the publication of Bowen et al. (1978) this name has been fully accepted in the literature. Except for the paper by Amat Domenech (1980; see BZN 47: 180, para. 6) we do not know of any recent publication which has used a synonym of *franciscana*, and we support the proposals on BZN 47: 180–181.

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I support the proposals by Belk and Bowen, which will clarify the nomenclature of North American *Artemia*.

Support for the proposals on BZN 47: 180–181 has also been received from the following: Prof C. Barigozzi (Dipartimento di Genetica e di Biologia dei Microrganismi, Università degli Studi di Milano, Via Celoria 26, 20133 Milano, Italy); Dr Laura Torrenera Blanco (Department of Zoology, University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin 53706, U.S.A.); Dr A.M. Maeda-Martinez (Institute of Ecology, University of Gent, K. Ledeganckstraat 35, B–9000 Gent, Belgium); Dr Graziella Mura (Dipartimento di Biologia Animale e dell’Uomo, Università di Roma ‘La Sapienza’, Roma, Italy).

Comments on the proposed precedence of *Bathynomus* A. Milne Edwards, 1879

(Crustacea, Isopoda) over *Palaega* Woodward, 1870

(Case 2721; see BZN 47: 27–29, 212–213, 290–293)

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In my opinion *Bathynomus* should be given precedence over *Palaega*. To drop the widely recognized name *Bathynomus* would create a lot of trouble among non-
specialists on crustacea without bringing significant benefit to taxonomy, as the genus *Palaega* seems to be quite obscure.

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*Palaega*, as defined by the type species *P. carteri* Woodward, 1870, is unambiguously distinct from *Bathynomus*. In all extant *Bathynomus* species the pleotelson posterior margin is truncate or subtruncate and provided with a number of distinct widely separated prominent spines. The pleotelson itself is always relatively short (about 0.67–0.86 as long as wide (Bruce, 1986)). In *Palaega carteri* the posterior margin of the pleotelson is smoothly curved or rounded and is finely serrate with a prominent median point; the pleotelson is nearly as long as wide (ratio 0.94, 0.95 (Woodward, 1870)).

Wieder & Feldmann (1989) made a fundamental error in assuming that because *Palaega goedertorum* appeared indistinguishable from *Bathynomus* it followed that *Bathynomus* and *Palaega* were synonymous. *Palaega*, as constituted by the currently included species, is not a valid genus. Wieder & Feldmann (1989) themselves acknowledge that it is a form genus with representatives from several families. Species such as *P. lamnae* Bowman, 1971 and *P. pumila* Gall & Grauvogel, 1971 are not congeneric with the type species and could belong to different families.

The diagnoses provided by Wieder & Feldmann are not congruent with contemporary diagnoses of extant isopod taxa and cannot therefore be applied to extant isopods. Their diagnosis to the *CIROLANIDAE* effectively diagnoses only the Flabellifera. Similarly, their diagnosis for *Palaega* could be applied to several families. There is little utility in synonymising a precisely defined genus with a name that approximates to a group of families.

In summary, it is my opinion that *Palaega carteri* Woodward is not congeneric with *Bathynomus*. Notwithstanding, some fossil isopods could well be species of *Bathynomus*. In order to maintain stability in the use of *Bathynomus* I strongly urge the Commission that, in all cases of conflict, *Bathynomus* be given precedence over *Palaega* and I therefore fully support the proposal of Martin & Kuck.

Comment on the conservation of *Semblis* Fabricius, 1775 (Insecta, Trichoptera) by the designation of *Phryganea phalaenoides* Linnaeus, 1758 as the type species  
(Case 2655; see BZN 45: 275–277; Opinion 1596; see BZN 47: 154–155)

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I should like to make a small correction to the history of this case; it does not affect the ruling. *Hemerobius lutarius* Linnaeus, 1758 was first designated as the type species of *Semblis* Fabricius, 1775 by Blanchard in 1845 (p. 311), not [1848, p. 539] as stated on BZN 45: 275.


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