OPINION 1860

Acanthoteuthis Wagner in Münster, 1839 and Muensterella Schevill, 1950 (Mollusca, Cephalopoda): placed on the Official List

Keywords. Nomenclature; taxonomy; Mollusca; Cephalopoda; Acanthoteuthis; Kelaeno; Muensterella.

Ruling

(1) The following names are hereby placed on the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology:
   (a) Acanthoteuthis Wagner in Münster, 1839 (gender: feminine), type species by subsequent designation by Bülow-Trummer (1920) Acanthoteuthis speciosa Münster, 1839;
   (b) Muensterella Schevill, 1950 (gender: feminine), type species by subsequent designation by Bülow-Trummer (1920) for the replaced nominal genus Kelaeno Münster, 1842, Kelaeno arquata Münster, 1842.

(2) The following names are hereby placed on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology:
   (a) speciosa Münster, 1839, as published in the binomen Acanthoteuthis speciosa (specific name of the type species of Acanthoteuthis Wagner in Münster, 1839);
   (b) arquata Münster, 1842, as published in the binomen Kelaeno arquata (specific name of the type species of Muensterella Schevill, 1950).

(3) The name Muensterellidae Roger, 1952 (1921) (type genus Muensterella Schevill, 1950) is hereby placed on the Official List of Family-Group Names in Zoology.

(4) The following names are hereby placed on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Generic Names in Zoology:
   (a) Kelaeno Münster, 1839 (unavailable because not published as a valid name);
   (b) Kelaeno d’Orbigny, 1841 (a junior objective synonym of Acanthoteuthis Münster, 1839);
   (c) Kelaeno Münster, 1842 (a junior homonym of Kelaeno d’Orbigny, 1841);
   (d) Celaeno Wagner, 1860 (a junior objective synonym of Kelaeno Münster, 1842 and a junior homonym of Celaeno Rafinesque-Schmaltz, 1815);

(5) The following names are hereby placed on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Family-Group Names in Zoology:
   (a) Kelaenidae Naef, 1921 (invalid because the name of its type genus, Kelaeno Münster, 1842, is a junior homonym);
   (b) Celaenidae Naef, 1922 (an incorrect subsequent spelling of Kelaenidae Naef, 1921).

History of Case 2902

An application to conserve the usage of the generic names Acanthoteuthis Wagner in Münster, 1839 and Kelaeno Münster, 1842 was received from Prof D.T. Donovan.
Further information relevant to the application was supplied by the author in BZN 52: 65 (March 1995).

Comments in support from Dr W. Riegraf (Münster, Germany) and from Dr Marion Nixon (Birkbeck College, London, U.K.) were published in BZN 52: 65.

A comment from Dr Theo S. Engeser (Institut für Paläontologie, Freie Universität Berlin, Berlin, Germany), also published in BZN 52: 65, supported the placement of the name Acanthoteuthis Wagner in Münster, 1839 on the Official List but opposed the conservation of Kelaeno Münster, 1842. He pointed out (para. 6 of his comment) that since 1950 authors had adopted Kelaeno Münster and its replacement Muensterella (published as Münsterella) Schevill, 1950 (p. 117) in equal numbers. Engeser proposed that Kelaeno Münster should be rejected as a junior homonym of Kelaeno d'Orbigny, 1841 and that Muensterella should be adopted. He added that it would be 'preferable' to replace Kelaenidae Näef, 1921 by Muensterellidae Roger, 1952 (1921).

In March 1995 the author of the application was asked if he wished to reply to Dr Engeser's comment on Kelaeno. Prof Donovan replied (in litt., August 1995): 'I think I am content to let matters take their course'.

The application was sent to the Commission for voting on 1 December 1995. It was noted on the voting paper that if it was not approved by a two-thirds majority of the votes, so that Kelaeno d'Orbigny, 1841 was not suppressed, Muensterella Schevill, 1950 (and not Kelaeno Münster, 1842) and Muensterellidae Roger, 1952 (1921) would be placed on Official Lists, and Kelaeno d'Orbigny, 1841 (a junior objective synonym of Acanthoteuthis Münster, 1839 by Engeser's 1987 type species designation) and Kelaeno Münster, 1842 (a junior homonym of Kelaeno d'Orbigny, 1841) would be placed on the Official Index.

It was also noted that, whatever the outcome of the voting, it was proposed that the name Celaeno Wagner, 1860, an unjustified emendation (junior objective synonym) of Kelaeno Münster, 1842 (paras. 4 and 5 of Engeser's comment) and a junior homonym of Celaeno Rafinesque-Schmalz, 1815 (para. 3 of the application) be placed on the Official Index in addition to the names listed in para. 12(4) of the application.

The Commission approved (18 votes in favour, 8 against) the proposal to place Acanthoteuthis, and that of its type species Acanthoteuthis speciosa Münster, 1839, on Official Lists. The proposal to conserve Kelaeno Münster, 1842 by suppressing the senior homonym Kelaeno d'Orbigny, 1841 received a majority (17 votes in favour, 9 against) but failed to reach the required two-thirds majority for approval.

A number of Commissioners commented on their voting papers. Bock noted: 'I urge that the final ruling on this case includes a statement to clarify which are the valid family-group names. This is not at all clear to me'. Bouche observed: 'No action by the Commission is necessary for the name Acanthoteuthis. Engeser has very convincingly demonstrated that Kelaeno and Muensterella have been cited in a few publications only and therefore there is no widespread usage to conserve. The principles of priority and homonymy should apply' [i.e. Kelaeno Münster, 1842
should be rejected as a junior homonym]. Lehtinen commented: ‘There are no reasons to deviate from the Code in the case of Kelaeno. Dr Engeser has presented a solution and nothing need be added or altered’. Cogger, Hahn and Minelli also commented that they were persuaded by Dr Engeser’s arguments.

Under the Bylaws the proposal to conserve the name Kelaeno Münster, 1842 required a revote. Completion of the voting on Kelaeno would allow an Opinion to be published combined with that on Acanthoteuthis. Before sending the application on Kelaeno for revoting the Commission Secretariat consulted Prof Donovan. He commented (in litt., March 1996): ‘I am not worried by the loss of Kelaeno Münster, 1842, although I had proposed its conservation, provided that Acanthoteuthis is upheld and that the name Kelaeno is rejected in all possible meanings’.

The original proposals relating to Kelaeno (proposals (1), 2(b), (3)(b), (4)(a) and (4)(b) on BZN 51: 221–222) were set out and sent for a second vote on 16 September 1996. Additional proposals to place Kelaenidae Naef, 1821 on the Official List and Celaeno Wagner, 1860 on the Official Index were included on the voting paper. Proposals (4)(c) and (d) in para. 12 on BZN 51: 222 (to place the incorrect subsequent spellings Celaeno Owen, 1844 and Kalænæo Krimholz, 1958 on the Official Index) were omitted; both are unavailable names.

Decisions of the Commission

On 1 December 1995 the members of the Commission were invited to vote on the proposals published in BZN 51: 221–222 (Vote 1), and on 16 September 1996 they were invited to revote on those relating to Kelaeno (Vote 2). At the close of the voting periods on 1 March 1996 and on 16 December 1996 respectively the votes were as follows:

Vote 1. Affirmative votes — 18: Bayer, Bock, Cocks, Halvorsen, Holthuis, Kabata, Kraus, Lehtinen (part), Macpherson, Mahnert, Martins de Souza, Nielsen, Nye, Ride, Savage, Schuster, Starobogatov, Trijapitzin
Negative votes — 8: Bouchet, Cogger, Corliss, Dupuis, Hahn, Heppell, Minelli and Stys.

Lehtinen supported placing Acanthoteuthis Wagner in Münster, 1839 on the Official List but voted against the conservation of Kelaeno Münster, 1842.

Vote 2. Affirmative votes — 10: Bock, Cocks, Kabata, Macpherson, Mawatari, Nye, Papp, Schuster, Song, Stys
Negative votes — 13: Bouchet, Brothers, Cogger, Eschmeyer, Heppell, Kerzhner, Kraus, Lehtinen, Mahnert, Martins de Souza, Minelli, Patterson and Savage.

Nielsen abstained.
No vote was received from Dupuis.
Ride was on leave of absence.

Martins de Souza and Patterson commented that they were satisfied with Engeser’s argument and agreed with his solution (adoption of the replacement name Muensterella Schevill, 1950) to the problem of the homonymous name Kelaeno Münster, 1842.

The required majority for the conservation of Kelaeno Münster, 1842 (and thus Kelaenidae Naef, 1921) was not reached and the names Muensterella Schevill, 1950 and Muensterellidae Roger, 1952 (1921) are placed on Official Lists.
Original references

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


*Celaenidae* Naef, 1922, *Die fossilen Tintenfische*, p. 150.


The following is the reference for the designation of *Acanthoteuthis speciosa* Münster, 1839 as the type species of the nominal genus *Acanthoteuthis* Wagner in Münster, 1839 and, under Article 67h of the Code, for the fixation of *Kelaeno arquata* Münster, 1842 as the type species of *Muensterella* Schevill, 1950:


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