## **OPINION 1781**

# *Termes lacteus* Froggatt, 1898 (currently *Coptotermes lacteus*; Insecta, Isoptera): specific name conserved

#### Ruling

(1) Under the plenary powers the specific name *lactis* Froggatt, 1897, as published in the binomen *Termes lactis*, is hereby suppressed for the purposes of the Principle of Priority but not for those of the Principle of Homonymy.

(2) The name *lacteus* Froggatt, 1898, as published in the binomen *Termes lacteus*, is hereby placed on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology.

(3) The name *lactis* Froggatt, 1897, as published in the binomen *Termes lactis* and as suppressed in (1) above, is hereby placed on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Specific Names in Zoology.

#### History of Case 2864

An application for the conservation of the specific name of *Termes lacteus* Froggatt, 1898 was received from the late Dr J.A.L. Watson and from Dr H.M. Abbey (both of *CSIRO, Canberra, Australia*) on 21 October 1992. After correspondence the case was published in BZN 50: 112–114 (June 1993). Notice of the case was sent to appropriate journals.

### **Decision of the Commission**

On 1 March 1994 the members of the Commission were invited to vote on the proposals published in BZN 50: 113. At the close of the voting period on 1 June 1994 the votes were as follows:

Affirmative votes — 22: Bayer, Bock, Bouchet, Cocks, Corliss, Dupuis, Hahn, Halvorsen, Heppell, Holthuis, Kraus, Macpherson, Mahnert, Martins de Souza, Minelli, Nielsen, Nye, Savage, Schuster, Starobogatov, Trjapitzin, Willink

Negative votes — 4: Kabata, Lehtinen, Štys and Thompson.

No votes were received from Cogger and Uéno.

Ride was on leave of absence.

Voting for, Dupuis commented that the Agricultural Gazette of New South Wales is a well known journal and it would have been preferable to consider lacteus as a valid correction from Froggatt (1897) (para. 1 of the application). Voting against, Kabata commented: 'Froggatt's original name lactis is correctly formed under Article 11h(i)(3) of the Code and it cannot be considered a lapsus. In my view its retention or restoration is not going to cause a major disturbance in the literature'. Štys commented that the provisions of the Code should be followed in this case. Thompson commented: 'I consider that this application is unnecessary as Termes lactis Froggatt, 1897 is not an available name. Froggatt himself (1898) declared this when he stated that his 1897 work was a 'popular paper' (para. 2 of the application), thereby rendering it a work not issued for permanent scientific record (Article 8a(1))'.

#### **Original references**

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

#### Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature 51(3) September 1994

lacteus, Termes, Froggatt, 1898, Proceedings of the Linnean Society of New South Wales, 22: 721.
lactis, Termes, Froggatt, 1897, Agricultural Gazette of New South Wales, 8: plate facing p. 297.

Vegative votes - 4: Katsau, Lehinsen, Siya and

Ride was on leave of bosmes.

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