Ordinarily I would hesitate to set aside the principle of priority when such generally obscure animals as zoanthideans are involved. Furthermore, there have been so few taxonomic works published about zoanthideans in the last 50 years that a statement about the lack of use of the generic name Sidisia may not be very meaningful. However, on balance, I come out in favor of conserving the generic name Epizoanthus Gray, 1867 on the grounds that a name change may lead to confusion in the field of marine parasitology. The ascothoracid crustacean family Lauridae are obligate parasites of zoanthideans and two species, Laura dorsalis Grygier, 1985 and Zoanthoecus scrobiusculus Grygier, 1990, have been described as parasites of Epizoanthus sp. and Epizoanthus fatuus (M. Schultze) respectively. I would be disappointed to see the hosts’ names change on purely nomenclatural rather than taxonomic grounds.

Additional references

Comments on the proposed confirmation of a lectotype for Lindholmiiola barbata (Féruussac, 1821 or 1832) (Mollusca, Gastropoda)
(Case 2630; see BZN 47: 101; 48: 53)

(1) Dietrich Kadolsky
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Commenting on my application, Gittenberger (BZN 48: 53) attempts to provide additional support for the assertion made by Gittenberger & Groh (1986) that Helix (Helicigona) barbata is an available name from Féruussac (1821) rather than a nomen nudum and, accordingly, he requests the appropriate date changes in the application. Contrary to the statement that in Féruussac’s (1821) work ‘Greek letters were not used simply to indicate variants of an undescribed ‘normal form’ of a species’, nearly all usages of Greek letters in the work can easily and consistently be interpreted to denote variants. The only exception is the parallel use of Greek lettering to denote monstrosities, which is expressly so stated in Féruussac’s work. In fact, many of the Greek letters would be difficult to explain otherwise. This includes Gittenberger’s example of species no. 288, Helix (Helicella) cretica, for the words of the supposed description ‘Alba, immaculata’ can also be found under the preceding species, no. 287, H. (H.) subrostrata, here also preceded by the letter a. It is clear that in this case colour
variants of two different species are described with the same words, but the two species
themselves are not described.
Féru ssac did not use the term ‘var’ in his (1821) work, but he did on labels in his
collection in the case of ‘Helicigona barbata var β) Brunnea’, as mentioned by
Gittenberger & Groh (1986) and myself (BZN 47: 102).
Gittenberger & Groh’s (1986) error referred to by me concerns only the inclusion in
their list of syntype material of several lots of specimens of Lindholmiola lens which
were not included in the 1821 or 1832 publications of the names barbata or lens respective-
ly. A further error was that the term ‘β) Brunnea’ was considered by them to be part
of the original diagnosis of Lindholmiola barbata and yet was listed simultaneously as
the name of a variety on a label of one lot of ‘syntypes’ of L. lens.
I accept that Gittenberger’s new view, that barbata a (1821) and barbata var. a (1832)
are both Lindholmiola barbata from Kolpos Sou dnias (‘La Sude’), is possibly true. In
this case the diagnosis of barbata a (‘minus depressa’) has to be taken to mean ‘smaller
and depressed’ instead of ‘less depressed’ (i.e. the opposite of what I (BZN 47: 102)
assumed). However, this does not alter the nomenclatural situation.
The question whether acceptance of the interpretation of Féru ssac (1821) proposed
above upsets the stability of nomenclature in other cases should not be considered
and has no bearing on this case. It may well be that additional applications to the
Commission are required in connection with Féru ssac’s other names; in the long run
stability will best be served by a consistent application of the Code to problematical
works.
The Commission could rule that barbata is available from 1821 instead of 1832, but
such a ruling would require the use of the plenary powers to suspend Articles 12a and
72b(i). No advantage would be gained by this additional ruling and I therefore wish to
retain my original application.

(2) Anthea Gentry
Secretariat, International Commission on Zoological Commission

In Opinion 336 (March 1955) Helix lens Féru ssac was ruled to be available from
1832, when the species was figured (pl. 66*, fig. 2), and not from 1821, when it was a
nomen nudum. The date for pl. 66* followed that given by Kennard (1942, p. 110), and
the name was included on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology as ‘lens
Féru ssac [1832]’.
The proposal to place Helix lens Féru ssac, 1832 on the Official List (BZN 47: 103,
para. 8) is therefore withdrawn from the present application.

Comments on the proposed confirmation of unavailability of the name Fusus Helbling,
1779 (Mollusca, Gastropoda)
(Case 2729; see BZN 48: 92–96)

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I do not agree with the authors of this application that Fusus Helbling, 1779 is not
a subgeneric name. All the arguments provided in favour of considering Fusus a
https://doi.org/10.5962/bhl.part.735.

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