PROPOSED USE OF THE PLENARY POWERS TO GIVE THE FAMILY NAME HENICOPIDAE POCOCK, 1901, PRECEDENCE OVER THE FAMILY NAME CERMATOBIIDAE HAASE, 1885 (MYRIAPODA: CHILOPODA). Z.N.(S.) 2206

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Abstract.- The monotypic genus Cermatobius Haase, 1885, was for many years considered as a link between the Scutigeromorpha and the Lithobiomorpha among Chilopoda. Re-examination of the holotype of C. martensii, long thought to be lost, shows that the generic name is a synonym of Esastigmatobius Silvestri, 1909. It follows that CERMATOBIIDAE Haase, 1885, must displace HENICOPIDAE Pocock, 1901, in widespread use for a large and widely distributed family, unless the Commission intervenes.

The purpose of the present application is to ask the International Commission to use its plenary powers to conserve the generally known family name HENICOPIDAE Pocock, 1901 (Ann. Mag. nat. Hist. (7) vol. 8: 448) for use by those zoologists who hold that it denotes the same family as CERMATOBIIDAE Haase, 1885.

2. In 1885 (Zool. Anz. vol. 8: 695) Haase described the family CERMATOBIIDAE based on a single genus with a single species, Cermatobius martensii Haase, ibid., from the Lesser Sunda Island Adonara. C. martensii was believed by its author to be a kind of link between the Scutigeromorpha and the Lithobiomorpha. Because of this presumed phylogenetic importance, Cermatobius, C. martensii and CERMATOBIIDAE have been discussed in handbooks on Myriapoda (Verhoeff, 1907, in Bronn’s Kl. Ord. Tier., vol. 5, II, Heft 6 (Lfg. 78-79); Attems, 1927, in Kükenthal, Handb. Zool. vol. 4 (1) and in a recent article (Prunesco, 1970, Bull. Mus. nat. Hist. nat., (2) vol. 41, Suppl. 2: 112-115). But all these descriptions and discussions of Cermatobius and CERMATOBIIDAE are based on Haase’s second and fuller description (Abh. Ber. k. Zool. - - Anthr. - Ethn. Mus. Dresden, 1886-7, no. 5: 29-30, pl. 2, fig. 30) because the original type-specimen was thought to be missing.

3. In 1975 I had an opportunity to discover the holotype of C. martensii in the Museum für Naturkunde in Berlin. Although the specimen is now in poor condition and shows few specific characters, it shows clearly that Cermatobius is identical with Esastigmatobius Silvestri, 1909 (Boll. Lab. Zool. Gen. Agr. Portici, vol. 4: 47) and hence that Haase’s second description was wrong in the most important points. Esastigmatobius belongs to the family...
HENICOPIDAE Pocock, 1901. Thus application of the Code would necessitate the substitution of HENICOPIDAE by CERMATOBIIDAE. But this would lead to considerable confusion and disturbance of stability and continuity of usage. The name HENICOPIDAE is well established for a large and widely distributed family. One species is common in Europe and is of biological interest for its parthenogenesis.


6. The Commission is therefore asked:

(1) to use its plenary powers to rule that the family-group name HENICOPIDAE Pocock, 1901, is to be given precedence over the family-group name CERMATOBIIDAE Haase, 1885, by any zoologist who considers that Cermatobius Haase, 1885, and Henicops Newport, 1844, belong to the same family-group taxon;

(2) to place the family-group name HENICOPIDAE Pocock, 1901 (type-genus henicops Newport, 1844) on the Official List of Family-Group Names in Zoology with an endorsement that it is to be given precedence over CERMATOBIIDAE Haase, 1885, by any zoologist who
considers that *Henicops* and *Cermatobius* belong to the same family-group taxon;

(3) to place the family-group name CERMATOBIIDAE Haase, 1885, (type-genus *Cermatobius* Haase, 1885) on the Official List of Family-Group Names in Zoology with an endorsement that it is not to be given priority over HENICOPIDAE Pocock, 1901, by any zoologist who considers that *Henicops* and *Cermatobius* belong to the same family-group taxon;

(4) to place the following names on the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology:

(a) *Henicops* Newport, 1844 (gender: masculine), type-species, by subsequent designation by Pocock, 1901, *Henicops maculata* [sic] Newport, 1845;

(b) *Cermatobius* Haase, 1885 (gender: masculine), type-species, by monotypy, *Cermatobius martensii* Haase, 1885;

(5) to place the following names on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology:

(a) *maculatus* Newport, 1845, as published in the binomen *Henicops maculata* [sic] (specific name of type-species of *Henicops* Newport, 1844);

(b) *martensii* Haase, 1885, as published in the binomen *Cermatobius martensii* (specific name of type-species of *Cermatobius* Haase, 1855).

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