OPINION 1182
TETHYIDAE IN MOLLUSCA, PORIFERA AND TUNICATA: REMOVAL OF THE HOMONYMY

RULING.- (1) Under the plenary powers:

(a) it is hereby ruled that the stem of the generic name Tethys Linnaeus, 1767, is TETHYD;
(b) The generic name Tethyum Gunnerus, 1765, is hereby suppressed for the purposes of the Law of Priority but not for those of the Law of Homonymy.

(2) The following names are hereby placed on the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology with the Name Numbers specified:

(a) Tethya Lamarck, [1814] (gender: feminine), type species, by subsequent designation by H. Milne Edwards, 1849, Alcyonium lycurium Linnaeus, 1767 (Name Number 2123);
(b) Pyura Molina, 1782 (gender: feminine), type species, by monotypy, Pyura chilensis Molina, 1782 (Name Number 2124).

(3) The following names are hereby placed on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology with the Name Numbers specified:

(a) aurantium Pallas, 1766, as published in the binomen Alcyonium aurantium (the valid name, at the time of this ruling, for the type species of Tethya Lamarck, [1814]) (Name Number 2747);
(b) chilensis, Pyura, Molina, 1782, as published in the binomen Pyura chilensis (specific name of type species of Pyura Molina, 1782) (Name Number 2748).

(4) The following names are hereby placed on the Official List of Family-Group Names in Zoology with the Name Numbers specified:

(a) TETHYDIDAE (correction, through the ruling under the plenary powers in (1)(a) above of TETHYIDAE) Rafinesque, 1815 (as “Tethydia”) (type genus Tethys Linnaeus, 1767) (Name Number 511);
(b) APLYSIIDAE Swainson, 1840 (as “Aplysianae”) (type genus Aplysia Linnaeus, 1767) (Name Number 512);
(c) TETHYIDAE J.E. Gray, 1867 (as “Tethyadae”) (type genus Tethya Lamarck, 1814) (Name
(d) PYURIDAE Hartmeyer, 1908 (type genus Pyura Molina, 1782) (Name Number 514).

(5) The generic name Tethyum Gunnerus, 1765, as suppressed under the plenary powers in (1)(b) above, is hereby placed on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Generic Names in Zoology with the Name Number 2117.

(6) The following names are hereby placed on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Family-Group Names with the Name Numbers specified:

(a) TETHYIDAE Rafinesque, 1815 (as "Tethydia"), an incorrect spelling in consequence of the ruling given under the plenary powers in (1)(a) above (Name Number 484);

(b) TETHYIDAE Huntsman, 1912 (a junior homonym of TETHYIDAE J.E. Gray, 1867) (Name Number 485).

HISTORY OF THE CASE Z.N.(S.) 1780

The origin of the present case lies in a request from Mr Joshua L. Baily, Jr, received on 17 October 1966, for the completion of the ruling in Opinion 200 on the generic names Tethys and Aplysia by adding the corresponding family names (TETHYIDAE and APLYSIIDAE) to the Official List. It was not then possible to agree on a final text, but this was done in 1975. Mr Baily’s application was sent to the printer on 16 May and published on 22 September 1975 in Bull. zool. Nom. vol. 32, pp. 144–145. Public notice of the possible use of the plenary powers in the case was sent to the statutory serials and to three malacological serials.

Dr L.B. Holthuis wrote on 2 October 1975 to draw attention to the existence of the homonymous family name TETHYIDAE in Porifera (type genus Tethya Lamarck, [1814]). Dr W.O. Cernohorsky wrote on 25 November 1975 giving the correct authors and dates for the two molluscan family names involved. The application was supported by Dr Allyn G. Smith (California Academy of Sciences, San Francisco). Dr Jon-Arne Sneli (Biologisk Stasjon, Trondheim, Norway) sent a note received on 21 January 1976 drawing attention to another homonymous use of the family name TETHYIDAE in Tunicata (Asciidiacea).

These comments entailed much bibliographic work and correspondence with those directly involved as well as with other specialists to establish the original references for the various generic, specific and family-group names involved, and for the fixations of type species for the genera in question. These
consultations led to the publication of a revised application by the Secretary on 28 February 1978 in *Bull. zool. Nom.* vol. 34, pp. 247–251. New notices of the possible use of the plenary powers in the case were sent to the statutory journals, to seven general serials and to three malacological serials. Dr Holthuis wrote to correct the type-species designation for *Tethya* Lamarck and the status of *Pyura chilensis* Molina. His comment was published in *Bull. zool. Nom.* vol. 35, p. 196, with the Secretary’s reply. No other comments were received.

**DECISION OF THE COMMISSION**

On 5 September 1980 the members of the Commission were invited to vote under the Three-Month Rule on Voting Paper (1980)20 for or against the proposals set out in *Bull. zool. Nom.* vol. 34, pp. 247–251 as modified in vol. 35, p. 196. At the close of the voting period on 5 December 1980 the state of the voting was as follows:

**Affirmative Votes** — twenty-two (22) received in the following order: Melville, Holthuis, Mroczkowski, Willink, Brinck, Starobogatov, Trijapitzin, Lehtinen, Hahn, Tortonese, Corliss, Dupuis, Habe, Ride, Welch, Alvarado, Cogger, Sabrosky, Heppell, Bayer, Halvorsen, Nye

**Negative Votes** — none (0)

Vokes was on leave of absence. No voting papers were returned by Bernardi, Binder and Kraus.

Dr Sabrosky asked whether the family name TETHYMELIBIDAE Bergh, 1890, ought not to have been placed on the Official Index, as requested by Mr Baily in his original application. This was admittedly overlooked by the Secretary in his revised application and the point has not been voted on by the Commission. The name is, however, plainly unavailable, being based, not on the stem of a generic name but on a fusion of the stems of two generic names. Dr Sabrosky also asked whether “Tethydia” Rafinesque, 1815, was based on *Tethys* Linnaeus, 1758 (the name for a genus of tectibranch gastropods suppressed in Opinion 200) or on *Tethys* Linnaeus, 1767 (the name for a genus of nudibranch gastropods). The name “Tethydia” is accompanied by the description “pas de tentacules” and by a number of generic names. In addition to *Tethys* L. and ‘Acera Cuv.’ there are four new nomina nuda: *Agenor, Armina, Nereus* and *Peribea*. All these are accepted as nudibranch names by Russell, H.D., 1971, *Index Nudibranchs*, Delaware Mus. nat. Hist., iv + 141 pp. This leaves no doubt that Rafinesque intended to name a family of nudibranchs based on *Tethys* Linnaeus, 1767, and that the present ruling is not misdirected on that score.
ORIGINAL REFERENCES

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

APLYSIIDAE Swainson, 1840, *Treatise Malacology*, pp. 247, 248, 251

*aurantium*, Alcyonium, Pallas, 1766, *Elenchus Zoophytorum*, p. 357


TETHYIDAE Rafinesque, 1815, *Analyse Nature*, p. 141

TETHYIDAE Rafinesque, 1815, *ibid.*


The following is the original reference to a subsequent designation of a type species accepted in the present ruling: of *Alcyonium lyncurium* Linnaeus, 1767, as type species of *Tethya* Lamarck, [1814] by H. Milne Edwards, in *Cuvier, Règne Animal*, ed. 4 (Disciples' Edition), vol. 20 (1836–1849), pl. 95.

CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that the votes cast on Voting Paper (80)20 were cast as set out above, that the proposal contained in that voting paper has been duly adopted under the plenary powers, and that the decision so taken, being the decision of the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature, is truly recorded in the present Opinion No. 1182.

R.V. MELVILLE
Secretary
International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature
London
16 December 1980

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