Thiele (1925, p. 171) established the genus Drupella for a group of Thaidine species in the family Muricidae. The four originally included species comprised Purpura elata Blainville, 1832, Ricinula spectrum Reeve, 1846, Sistrum ochrostoma (Blainville, 1832) and Ricinula siderea Reeve, 1846, but Thiele failed to select a type-species for his new genus Drupella.

2. The earliest subsequent type-designation is that by v. Ihering and Haas (1927, p. 215). In a review of Thiele's 1925 publication, the authors designated Ricinula siderea Reeve, as the type-species of Drupella.

3. The application for setting aside v. Ihering and Haas' type-designation is based on the grounds of misidentification of the type-species by Thiele. The dentition figured by Thiele (loc. cit., p. 171, text-fig. 3) for "Ricinula siderea Reeve", is the radula of the muricid species Drupa cornus Röding, 1798, whereas the true Ricinula siderea Reeve, not only belongs to a different genus but also a different family. Tryon (1880, p. 190), correctly pointed out that Ricinula siderea Reeve appears to belong to the Columbellidae and not the Muricidae. Personal examination of the three syntypes of Ricinula siderea Reeve, in the British Museum (Natural History), London, confirmed Tryon's suspicion of the species being actually a columbellid. The largest syntype (12.8 x 6.4 mm. = length x width) and the two smaller syntypes of Ricinula siderea Reeve, are a species of the genus Pyrene Röding, 1798, in the family Columbellidae.

4. If v. Ihering and Haas' type-designation were allowed to stand, Drupella Thiele would disappear in the synonymy of Pyrene Röding in the family Columbellidae, and the creation of a new genus for the muricid Drupella-group of species would be inevitable in view of the absence of available synonyms. From the species originally included in Drupella, in conjunction with the illustrated dentition of two of the species, it is quite clear that Drupella was meant for a genus-group in the Muricidae and not Columbellidae.

5. In the best interests of nomenclatorial stability and conforming to Article 70 (a) of the Code, it would be most appropriate to set aside v. Ihering and Haas' type-designation and select Purpura ochrostoma Blainville, 1832 (p. 205), as the type-species of Drupella Thiele. The latter species is one of the originally included species, has been cited by Thiele (1929, p. 295) as a representative species of Drupella, the dentition is of the Drupella pattern and the taxon is in current use in malacological literature for a widely distributed tropical Indo-Pacific species. The other two species included by Thiele in Drupella, apart from Ricinula siderea Reeve, are Purpura elata Blainville, 1832 and Ricinula spectrum Reeve, 1846; both these species are synonyms of Drupa cornus Röding, 1798.

6. In the interests of nomenclatorial stability and to obviate the need for a new genus-group name, the International Commission on Zoological Nomen-
clamation is requested under the status of Article 70 (a) of the Code:

(1) to use its plenary powers to set aside all designations of type-species for the genus *Drupella* Thiele, 1925, made prior to the present Ruling and, having done so, to designate *Purpura ochrostoma* Blainville, 1832, as type-species of *Drupella* Thiele, 1925;

(2) to place the generic name *Drupella* Thiele, 1925 (gender : feminine), type-species by designation under the plenary powers in (1) above, *Purpura ochrostoma* Blainville, 1832, on the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology;

(3) to place the specific name *ochrostoma* Blainville, 1832, as published in the binomen *Purpura ochrostoma* (type-species of *Drupella* Thiele, 1925) on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology.

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