

OPINION 2033 (Case 3156)***Chiton lepidus* Reuss, 1860 (currently *Lepidochitona lepida*; Mollusca, Polyplacophora): specific name conserved**

Abstract. The Commission has ruled that the specific name of *Chiton lepidus* Reuss, 1860, for a chiton (currently *Lepidochitona lepida*, family ISCHNOCHITONIDAE, subfamily LEPIDochITONINAE) from the Middle Miocene of Europe, is conserved. The specific name was threatened by a senior primary homonym *Chiton lepidus* Gould, 1859 (family ISCHNOCHITONIDAE, subfamily ISCHNOCHITONINAE), the name used for a Recent species from the Indo-Pacific.

Keywords. Nomenclature; taxonomy; *Lepidochitona lepida*; ISCHNOCHITONIDAE; ISCHNOCHITONINAE; LEPIDochITONINAE; chitons; Miocene; Europe; Indo-Pacific.

Ruling

- (1) Under the plenary power it is ruled that the specific name *lepidus* Reuss, 1860, as published in the binomen *Chiton lepidus*, is not invalid by reason of being a junior primary homonym of *Chiton lepidus* Gould, 1859.
- (2) The name *lepidus* Reuss, 1860, as published in the binomen *Chiton lepidus* (not invalid by the ruling in (1) above), is hereby placed on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology.

History of Case 3156

An application to conserve the specific name of *Chiton lepidus* Reuss, 1860 (currently *Lepidochitona lepida*, family ISCHNOCHITONIDAE, subfamily LEPIDochITONINAE) from the Middle Miocene of Europe was received from Enrico Schwabe (*Münchhausenstrasse 21, Munich, Germany*) on 7 April 2000. After correspondence the case was published in BZN 57: 207–209 (December 2000). Notice of the case was sent to appropriate journals. A comment opposing the application was published in BZN 58: 227 (September 2001) together with a reply from the author clarifying that the application had been submitted under Article 23.9.5.

Decision of the Commission

On 1 December 2002 the members of the Commission were invited to vote on the proposals published in BZN 57: 208. At the close of the voting period on 1 March 2003 the votes were as follows: 22 Commissioners voted FOR the proposals, 2 Commissioners (Bouchet and Calder) voted AGAINST, no vote was received from Mahnert, Ng was on leave of absence.

Original reference

The following is the original reference to the name placed on an Official List by the ruling given in the present Opinion:

lepidus, *Chiton*, Reuss, 1860, *Sitzungsberichte der Kaiserlichen Akademie der Wissenschaften in Wien*, 39(2): 259.