

**OPINION 2074 (Case 3213)*****Bothriurus alticola* Pocock, 1899 (Arachnida, Scorpiones): specific name given precedence over the subspecific name of *Cercophonius brachycentrus bivittatus* Thorell, 1877**

**Abstract.** The Commission has ruled that the specific name of *Bothriurus alticola* Pocock, 1899 for a scorpion (family BOTHRIURIDAE) from Argentina is conserved by giving it precedence over the little used subspecific name *Cercophonius brachycentrus bivittatus* Thorell, 1877.

**Keywords.** Nomenclature; taxonomy; Arachnida; Scorpiones; BOTHRIURIDAE; *Cercophonius brachycentrus bivittatus*; *Bothriurus alticola*; Argentina.

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**Ruling**

- (1) Under the plenary power it is hereby ruled that the name *alticola* Pocock, 1899, as published in the binomen *Bothriurus alticola*, is given precedence over the name *bivittatus* Thorell, 1877, as published in the trinomen *Cercophonius brachycentrus bivittatus*, whenever the two are considered to be synonyms.
- (2) The name *Orobothriurus* Maury, 1976 (gender: masculine), type species by original designation *Bothriurus alticola* Pocock, 1899, is hereby placed on the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology.
- (3) The following names are hereby placed on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology:
  - (a) *alticola* Pocock, 1899, as published in the binomen *Bothriurus alticola*, with the endorsement that it is to be given precedence over the name *bivittatus* Thorell, 1877, as published in the trinomen *Cercophonius brachycentrus bivittatus*, whenever the two are considered to be synonyms;
  - (b) *bivittatus* Thorell, 1877, as published in the trinomen *Cercophonius brachycentrus bivittatus*, with the endorsement that it is not to be given priority over the name *alticola* Pocock, 1899, as published in the binomen *Bothriurus alticola*, whenever the two are considered to be synonyms.

**History of Case 3213**

An application to conserve the specific name of *Bothriurus alticola* Pocock, 1899, for a scorpion (family BOTHRIURIDAE) from Argentina, by giving it precedence over the little used subspecific name *Cercophonius brachycentrus bivittatus* Thorell, 1877, was received from Luis E. Acosta (CONICET - Universidad Nacional de Córdoba, Córdoba, Argentina) on 15 July 2001. After correspondence the case was published in BZN 59: 176–179 (September 2002). The title, abstract and keywords of the case were published on the Commission's website. No comments on this case were received.

**Decision of the Commission**

On 1 December 2003 the members of the Commission were invited to vote on the proposals published in BZN 59: 177–178. At the close of the voting period on

1 March 2004 the votes were as follows: 20 Commissioners voted FOR the proposals, 3 Commissioners voted AGAINST, Calder and Ng were on leave of absence.

Voting against, Alonso-Zarazaga commented that the name proposed for conservation is little used, so priority must stand.

### Original references

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

*alticola*, *Bothriurus*, Pocock, 1899, *The highest Andes, a record of the first ascent of Aconcagua and Tupungato in Argentina, and the exploration of the surrounding valleys*, p. 357.

*Orobothriurus* Maury, 1976, *Revista Peruana de Entomología*, **18**: 14.

*bivittatus*, *Cercophonius brachycentrus*, Thorell, 1877, *Atti della Società Italiana di Scienze Naturali*, **19**: 183.