

OPINION 2087 (Case 3130)***Pelastoneurus* Loew, 1861 (Insecta, Diptera): conserved**

Abstract. The Commission has conserved the name *Pelastoneurus* Loew, 1861 for a genus of predaceous flies (family DOLICHOPODIDAE). The name was threatened by a little used senior synonym *Paracleius* Bigot, 1859.

Keywords. Nomenclature; taxonomy; DOLICHOPODIDAE; *Pelastoneurus*; *Pelastoneurus vagans*; Nearctic, Neotropical, Afrotropical and Oriental regions.

Ruling

- (1) Under the plenary power the generic name *Paracleius* Bigot, 1859 is hereby suppressed for the purposes of the Principle of Priority but not for those of the Principle of Homonymy.
- (2) The name *Pelastoneurus* Loew, 1861 (gender: masculine), type species by subsequent designation by Coquillett (1910) *Pelastoneurus vagans* Loew, 1861, is hereby placed on the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology.
- (3) The name *vagans* Loew, 1861, as published in the binomen *Pelastoneurus vagans* (specific name of the type species of *Pelastoneurus* Loew, 1861) is hereby placed on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology.
- (4) The name *Paracleius* Bigot, 1859, as suppressed in (1) above, is hereby placed on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Generic Names in Zoology.

History of Case 3130

An application to conserve the name *Pelastoneurus* Loew, 1861 for a genus of predaceous flies (family DOLICHOPODIDAE), distributed in the Nearctic, Neotropical, Afrotropical and Oriental regions, was received from Scott E. Brooks and Terry A. Wheeler (*Lyman Entomological Museum and Research Laboratory, McGill University (Macdonald Campus), Ste-Anne-de-Bellevue, Quebec, Canada*) and Neal L. Evenhuis (*Bishop Museum, Hawaii, U.S.A.*) on 17 May 1999. After correspondence the case was published in BZN 59: 196–197 (September 2002). The title, abstract and keywords of the case were published on the Commission's website. A comment in support of the application was published in BZN 60: 53–54.

Decision of the Commission

On 1 December 2003 the members of the Commission were invited to vote on the proposals published in BZN 59: 197. At the close of the voting period on 1 March 2004 the votes were as follows: 21 Commissioners voted FOR the proposals, 1 Commissioner voted AGAINST, 1 Commissioner abstained, Calder and Ng were on leave of absence.

Voting against, Štys commented that there is no reason for the suppression of *Paracleius* Bigot, 1859 since the threat to the widely used name *Pelastoneurus* Loew, 1861 is only potential. The authors of the application refer only to catalogue statements that *Dolichopus heteroneurus* Macquart, 1850 (an unrecognisable type

species of *Paracleius*) is congeneric with *Pelastoneurus* spp. Conditional suppression of the senior subjective synonym would have been preferable.

In abstaining, Bouchet commented that the asymmetrical presentation of the facts regarding the two generic names involved did not allow an informed vote. In para. 1, it was stated that there is no extant type material of *Dolichopus heteroneurus* Macquart, 1850, the type species of *Paracleius*. In para. 2, it was stated that the type species of *Pelastoneurus* is *P. vagans* Loew, 1861, but we do not know whether type material exists. We know that *P. vagans* is from the New World, but we do not know the geographical location of *D. heteroneurus*.

Original references

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

Paracleius Bigot, 1859, *Annales de la Société Entomologique de France*, (3)7: 215, 227.

Pelastoneurus Loew, 1861, *Neue Beiträge zur Kenntniss der Dipteren*, Beitrag 8, p. 36.

vagans, *Pelastoneurus*, Loew, 1861, *Neue Beiträge zur Kenntniss der Dipteren*, Beitrag 8, p. 39.

The following is the reference for the designation of *Pelastoneurus vagans* Loew, 1861 as the type species of the nominal genus *Pelastoneurus* Loew, 1861:

Coquillett, D.W. 1910. *Proceedings of the United States National Museum*, 37: 586.