

OPINION 2095 (Case 3238)***Rhagodes* Pocock, 1897 (Arachnida, Solifugae): conserved**

Abstract. The Commission has ruled that the generic name *Rhagodes* Pocock, 1897 is conserved for a group of solifuges or sun spiders (family RHAGODIDAE) by suppression of the older name *Rhax* Hermann, 1804.

Keywords. Nomenclature; taxonomy; Arachnida; RHAGODIDAE; *Rhagodes*; *Rhagodes melanus*; solifuges; sun spiders; Asia; Africa.

Ruling

- (1) Under the plenary power it is hereby ruled that the generic name *Rhax* Hermann, 1804 is hereby suppressed for the purposes of the Principle of Priority but not for those of the Principle of Homonymy.
- (2) The name *Rhagodes* Pocock, 1897 (gender: feminine), type species by subsequent designation by Pocock (1900) *Galeodes melanus* Olivier, 1807, is hereby placed on the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology.
- (3) The name *melanus* Olivier, 1807, as published in the binomen *Galeodes melanus* (specific name of the type species of *Rhagodes* Pocock, 1897) is hereby placed on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology.
- (4) The name *Rhax* Hermann, 1804, as suppressed in (1) above, is hereby placed on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Generic Names in Zoology.

History of Case 3238

An application to conserve the generic name *Rhagodes* Pocock, 1897 for a group of solifuges or sun spiders (family RHAGODIDAE) by proposed suppression of the older name *Rhax* Hermann, 1804 was received from Mark S. Harvey (Department of Terrestrial Invertebrates, Western Australian Museum, Perth, Western Australia, Australia) on 28 February 2002. After correspondence the case was published in BZN 60: 117–118 (June 2003). 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 September 2004 the members of the Commission were invited to vote on the proposals published in BZN 60: 118. At the close of the voting period on 1 December 2004 the votes were as follows: 24 Commissioners voted FOR the proposals, no Commissioners voted AGAINST, Ng was on leave of absence.

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:

melanus, *Galeodes*, Olivier, 1807, *Voyage dans l'Empire Othoman, l'Égypte et la Perse. fait par ordre du gouvernement, pendant les six premières années de la République*, vol. 3, p. 308.

Rhagodes Pocock, 1897, *Annals and Magazine of Natural History*, (6)20: 252.

Rhax Hermann, 1804, *Mémoire aptérologique*, p. 13.

The following is the reference for the designation of *Galeodes melanus* Olivier, 1807 as the type species of the nominal genus *Rhagodes* Pocock, 1897:

Pocock, R.I. 1900. *The fauna of British India, including Ceylon and Burma*, vol. 6. Arachnida, p. 148.