

OPINION 2102 (Case 3230)***Colobodus* Agassiz, 1844 (Osteichthyes, Perleidiformes): existing usage conserved by the designation of *C. bassanii* de Alessandri, 1910 as the type species**

Abstract. The Commission has ruled that the existing usage of the generic name of the fossil fish genus *Colobodus* Agassiz, 1844 is conserved by the designation of *Colobodus bassanii* de Alessandri, 1910 as the type species.

Keywords. Nomenclature; taxonomy; Osteichthyes; Perleidiformes; fossil fish; *Colobodus*; *Colobodus bassanii*; Middle Triassic; Besano Formation; Italy; Switzerland.

Ruling

- (1) Under the plenary power it is ruled that all previous fixations of type species for the nominal genus *Colobodus* Agassiz, 1844 are hereby set aside and *Colobodus bassanii* de Alessandri, 1910 is designated as the type species.
- (2) The name *Colobodus* Agassiz, 1844 (gender: masculine), type species by designation in (1) above and as defined by the neotype specimen T 4843 in the Paläontologisches Institut und Museum der Universität Zürich *Colobodus bassanii* de Alessandri, 1910 designated by Mutter (2003), is hereby placed on the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology.
- (3) The name *bassanii* de Alessandri, 1910, as published in the binomen *Colobodus bassanii* (specific name of the type species of *Colobodus* Agassiz, 1844) is hereby placed on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology.

History of Case 3230

An application to conserve the existing usage of the name of the fossil fish genus *Colobodus* Agassiz, 1844 by the designation of *Colobodus bassanii* de Alessandri, 1910 as the type species was received from Raoul J. Mutter (*Department of Biological Sciences and Laboratory for Vertebrate Paleontology, University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada*) on 16 January 2002. After correspondence the case was published in BZN 60: 135–137 (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: 136. At the close of the voting period on 1 December 2004 the votes were as follows: 20 Commissioners voted FOR the proposals, 2 Commissioners voted AGAINST, Kerzhner and Štys abstained, Ng was on leave of absence.

In abstaining, Štys questioned the need for a neotype for *Colobodus bassanii* de Alessandri, 1910. Voting against, Mahnert commented that since the description of

Colobodus hogardi Agassiz, 1844 is sufficient to recognize the genus there is no necessity to change the type species of a recognizable genus, even when subsequently better conserved specimens (of another species) are found. Similarly Patterson commented that the case suggests that *hogardi* and *bassanii* cannot be distinguished. In which case, he believed that a course of action more in keeping with the provisions of the Code would be to retypify *C. hogardi* Agassiz and to synonymize the names.

Original references

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

bassanii, *Colobodus*, de Alessandri, 1910, *Memorie della Società Italiana di Scienze Naturali e del Museo Civico di Storia Naturale di Milano*, 7(1): 76.

Colobodus Agassiz, 1844. *Recherches sur les poissons fossiles*, vol. 2, *L'histoire de l'ordre des Ganoides*, p. 237.

The following is the reference for the designation of the neotype of *Colobodus bassanii* de Alessandri, 1910:

Mutter, R. 2003. *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature*, 60: 136.