

**OPINION 2110 (Case 3253)*****Libellula aenea* Linnaeus, 1758 (currently *Cordulia aenea*) and *L. flavomaculata* Vander Linden, 1825 (currently *Somatochlora flavomaculata*; Insecta, Odonata): usage of the specific names conserved by the replacement of the lectotype of *L. aenea* with a newly designated lectotype**

**Abstract.** The Commission has ruled that the current usage of the names of two dragonfly species, *Libellula aenea* Linnaeus, 1758 (currently *Cordulia aenea*) and *L. flavomaculata* Vander Linden, 1825 (currently *Somatochlora flavomaculata*), is conserved by the replacement of the lectotype of *L. aenea* with a newly designated lectotype. In 1956, Fraser had designated one of Linnaeus's specimens as the lectotype of *L. aenea*. However, the specimen he designated was the one used by Vander Linden to denote his species *L. flavomaculata* and this action made *L. aenea* a senior objective synonym of *L. flavomaculata*.

**Keywords.** Nomenclature; taxonomy; Insecta; Odonata; CORDULIIDAE; *Cordulia aenea*; *Somatochlora flavomaculata*; dragonflies.

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**Ruling**

- (1) Under the plenary power it is hereby ruled that all type fixations for the nominal species *Libellula aenea* Linnaeus, 1758 are set aside and the female specimen no. 769 in the collection of the Linnean Society of London is designated as the lectotype.
- (2) The following names are hereby placed on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology:
  - (a) *aenea* Linnaeus, 1758, as published in the binomen *Libellula aenea* and as defined by the lectotype designated in (1) above;
  - (b) *flavomaculata* Vander Linden, 1825, as published in the binomen *Libellula flavomaculata* and as defined by specimen no. 768 in the collection of the Linnean Society of London.

**History of Case 3253**

An application to conserve the current usage of the names of two dragonfly species, *Libellula aenea* Linnaeus, 1758 (currently *Cordulia aenea*) and *L. flavomaculata* Vander Linden, 1825 (currently *Somatochlora flavomaculata*), by the replacement of the lectotype of *L. aenea* with a newly designated lectotype, was received from R. Jödicke (*Am Liebfrauenbusch 3, Westerstede, Germany*) and J. van Tol (*National Museum of Natural History Naturalis, RA Leiden, The Netherlands*) on 8 August 2002. After correspondence the case was published in **BZN 60**: 272–274 (December 2003). The title, abstract and keywords of the case were published on the Commission's website. Two comments in support of this case were published in **BZN 61**: 42, 110.

### **Decision of the Commission**

On 1 December 2004 the members of the Commission were invited to vote on the proposals published in BZN **60**: 273–274. At the close of the voting period on 1 March 2005 the votes were as follows: 21 Commissioners voted FOR the proposals, no Commissioners voted AGAINST, Evenhuis, Kerzhner and Ng were on leave of absence; no vote was received from Böhme.

### **Original references**

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

*aenea*, *Libellula*, Linnaeus, 1758, *Systema Naturae*, Ed. 10, vol. 1, p. 544.  
*flavomaculata*, *Libellula*, Vander Linden, 1825, *Monographiae libellularum Europaeorum specimen*, p. 19.