

OPINION 2121 (Case 3229)***Erbocyathus* Zhuravleva, 1955 (Archaeocyatha): not conserved; priority maintained for *Pluralicyathus* Okulitch, 1950**

Abstract. The Commission has ruled that priority should be maintained for the generic name *Pluralicyathus* Okulitch, 1950, for a group of Cambrian fossil sponge-like archaeocyaths (family ERBOCYATHIDAE). The junior replacement name *Erbocyathus* Zhuravleva, 1955, proposed to replace the preoccupied name *Polycyathus* Vologdin, 1928, is not conserved.

Keywords. Nomenclature; taxonomy; Archaeocyatha; ERBOCYATHIDAE; *Erbocyathus*; *Polycyathus heterovallum*; *Pluralicyathus*; Early Cambrian; fossil.

Ruling

- (1) The proposal to suppress the generic name *Pluralicyathus* Okulitch, 1950 for the purposes of the Principle of Priority but not for those of the Principle of Homonymy was not approved and priority is thereby maintained for *Pluralicyathus* Okulitch, 1950.
- (2) The name *Pluralicyathus* Okulitch, 1950 (gender: masculine), type species *Polycyathus heterovallum* Vologdin, 1928 by subsequent designation by Simon (1939), is hereby placed on the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology.
- (3) The name *heterovallum* Vologdin, 1928, as published in the binomen *Polycyathus heterovallum* (specific name of the type species of *Pluralicyathus* Okulitch, 1950), is hereby placed on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology.
- (4) The name ERBOCYATHIDAE Vologdin & Zhuravleva, 1956, type genus *Erbocyathus* Zhuravleva, 1955, is hereby placed on the Official List of Family-Group Names in Zoology.
- (5) The following names are hereby placed on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Generic Names in Zoology:
 - (a) *Erbocyathus* Zhuravleva, 1955 (a junior objective synonym of *Pluralicyathus* Okulitch, 1950);
 - (b) *Polycyathus* Vologdin, 1928 (a junior homonym of *Polycyathus* Duncan, 1876).

History of Case 3229

An application to conserve the generic name *Erbocyathus* Zhuravleva, 1955 (a replacement name for the preoccupied name *Polycyathus* Vologdin, 1928 (not Duncan, 1876)), for a group of Cambrian fossil sponge-like archaeocyaths (family ERBOCYATHIDAE), threatened by the use in 1955 of an older replacement name *Pluralicyathus* Okulitch, 1950 was received from Françoise Debrenne (*Laboratoire de Paléontologie, Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris, France*), Andrey Yu. Zhuravlev (*Ministry of Natural Resources, Moscow, Russia*) and Peter D. Kruse (*Northern Territory Geological Survey, Darwin, Australia*) on 4 February 2002. After

correspondence the case was published in BZN 60: 12–15 (March 2003). The title, abstract and keywords of the case were published on the Commission's website. No comments on this case were received.

The application was sent to the Commission for voting on 1 September 2004. The case received a majority of the votes cast but failed to reach the required two-thirds majority (13 votes in favour and 11 against; one Commissioner was on leave of absence). Voting against, Alonso-Zarazaga and Brothers considered that priority should be maintained; Nielsen and Štys did not accept Zhuravleva's (1955) text as satisfying the requirements for proposing a replacement name. As a result, the application was submitted for a second vote on 1 March 2005 under Bylaw 35.

Decision of the Commission

On 1 March 2005 the members of the Commission were invited to vote again on the proposals published in BZN 60: 14. At the close of the voting period on 1 June 2005 the votes were as follows:

Affirmative votes — 5: Bock, Halliday, Macpherson, Mahnert and Papp.

Negative votes — 13: Alonso-Zarazaga, Bouchet, Brothers, Calder, Fortey, Kerzhner, Lamas, Minelli, Nielsen, Patterson, Rosenberg, Štys and van Tol.

Mawatari abstained.

No votes were received from Böhme, Ng and Song.

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:

- ERBOCYATHIDAE Vologdin & Zhuravleva, 1956, *Doklady Akademii Nauk S.S.S.R.*, **111**: 879.
Erbocyathus Zhuravleva, 1955, *Trudy, Paleontologicheskii Institut, Akademiya Nauk S.S.S.R.*, **56**: 44.
heterovalhm, *Polycyathus*, Vologdin, 1928, *Ezhegodnik Russkogo Paleontologicheskogo Obshchestva*, **7**: 36.
Pluralicyathus Okulitch, 1950, *Journal of Paleontology*, **24**: 503.
Polycyathus Vologdin, 1928, *Ezhegodnik Russkogo Paleontologicheskogo Obshchestva*, **7**: 32.

The following is the reference for the designation of *Polycyathus heterovalhm* Vologdin, 1928 as the type species of the nominal genus *Pluralicyathus* Okulitch, 1950:

- Simon, W. 1939. *Abhandlungen der Senckenbergischen Naturforschende Gesellschaft*, **448**: 34.