

OPINION 2160 (Case 3280)***Melitaea nycteis* Doubleday, 1847 (currently *Chlosyne nycteis*; Insecta, Lepidoptera): specific name conserved**

Abstract. The Commission has ruled that the specific name *Melitaea nycteis* Doubleday, 1847 (currently *Chlosyne nycteis*) is conserved for a widespread North American species of butterfly (family NYMPHALIDAE) by suppression of the problematic name *M. ismeria* Boisduval & Le Conte, 1835.

Keywords. Nomenclature; taxonomy; Lepidoptera; NYMPHALIDAE; *Melitaea*; *Chlosyne nycteis*; *Chlosyne gorgone*; *Chlosyne ismeria*; butterflies.

Ruling

- (1) Under the plenary power it is hereby ruled that the specific name *ismeria* Boisduval & Le Conte, 1835, as published in the binomen *Melitaea ismeria*, is suppressed for the purposes of the Principle of Priority but not for those of the Principle of Homonymy.
- (2) The following names are hereby placed on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology:
 - (a) *gorgone* Hübner, 1810, as published in the trinomen *Dryas reticulata gorgone* and as defined by the neotype (labelled: 'Neotype ♂, *Dryas reticulata gorgone*', deposited in the McGuire Center for Lepidoptera and Biodiversity, Florida Museum of Natural History, Gainesville, Florida) designated by Gatrell (1998);
 - (b) *nycteis* Doubleday, 1847, as published in the binomen *Melitaea nycteis* and as defined by the holotype (B.M. Type no. Rh 8433 in the Natural History Museum, London).
- (3) The name *ismeria* Boisduval & Le Conte, 1835, as published in the binomen *Melitaea ismeria* and as suppressed in (1) above, is hereby placed on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Specific Names in Zoology.

History of Case 3280

An application to conserve the specific name *Melitaea nycteis* Doubleday, 1847 (currently *Chlosyne nycteis*) (NYMPHALIDAE) was received from John V. Calhoun (977 Wicks Drive, Palm Harbor, Florida 34684, U.S.A.), Lee D. Miller and Jacqueline Y. Miller (McGuire Center for Lepidoptera and Biodiversity, Florida Museum of Natural History, University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida, U.S.A.) on 2 April 2003. After correspondence the case was published in BZN 62: 79–83 (June 2005). The title, abstract and keywords of the case were published on the Commission's website. Comments in support of the application were published in BZN 62: 150–152. No comments opposing the case were received.

Decision of the Commission

On 1 January 2006 the members of the Commission were invited to vote on the proposals published in BZN 62: 81. At the close of the voting period on 1 April 2006 the votes were as follows:

Affirmative votes: – 19: Alonso-Zarazaga, Bock, Bouchet, Brothers, Calder, Fortey, Halliday, Kerzhner, Lamas, Macpherson, Mahnert, Mawatari, Minelli, Nielsen, Papp, Patterson, Rosenberg, Štys and van Tol.

Negative votes: – none.

No votes were received from Ng and Song.

Original references

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

gorgone, *Dryas reticulata*, Hübner, 1810, *Sammlung Exotischer Schmetterlinge*, pl. [41], figs. 1–2.

ismeria, *Melitaea*, Boisduval & Le Conte, 1835, *Histoire générale et iconographie des lépidoptères et des chenilles de l'Amérique septentrionale*, p. 168, pl. 46.

nycteis, *Melitaea*, Doubleday, 1847, *The genera of diurnal Lepidoptera: comprising their generic characters, a notice of their habits and transformations and a catalogue of the species of each genus*, vol. 1, pl. 23, fig. 3.

The following is the reference for the designation of the neotype of *Dryas reticulata gorgone* Hübner, 1810:

Gatrelle, R.R. 1998. *Taxonomic Report*, 1(2): 5.