

**OPINION 2191 (Case 3332)*****Cercophonius brachycentrus bivittatus* Thorell, 1877 (currently *Orobothriurus bivittatus*; Arachnida, Scorpiones): proposed replacement of the holotype by the designation of a neotype not accepted**

**Abstract.** The Commission has ruled that the type material of the scorpion *Cercophonius brachycentrus bivittatus* Thorell, 1877 (currently *Orobothriurus bivittatus*) from Argentina should not be replaced by a neotype. The original material still exists and there is no exceptional need to designate a neotype.

**Keywords.** Nomenclature; taxonomy; Arachnida; Scorpiones; *Orobothriurus*; *Orobothriurus bivittatus*; scorpions; Argentina.

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**Ruling**

- (1) It is hereby ruled that the holotype fixation for the nominal species *Cercophonius brachycentrus bivittatus* Thorell, 1877 (currently *Orobothriurus bivittatus*) is maintained.
- (2) The existing entry on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology for the name *bivittatus* Thorell, 1877, as published in the trinomen *Cercophonius brachycentrus bivittatus*, is not emended except to record the case number of the present opinion.

**History of Case 3332**

An application to set aside all previous fixations of a name-bearing type for *Cercophonius brachycentrus bivittatus* Thorell, 1877 (currently *Orobothriurus bivittatus*) and to designate as the neotype a specimen in the Universidad Nacional de Córdoba, Argentina was received from Luis E. Acosta (*Universidad Nacional de Córdoba, Argentina*) on 23 November 2004. The name *Cercophonius brachycentrus bivittatus* Thorell, 1877 had been placed on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology in Opinion 2074 (June 2004).

After correspondence the case was published in BZN 63: 20–22 (March 2006). 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 December 2006 the members of the Commission were invited to vote on the proposals published in BZN 63: 21. The case received a majority of the votes cast but failed to reach the required two-thirds majority (18 votes FOR and 10 AGAINST). The application was submitted for a second vote under Bylaw 35. On 1 June 2007 the members of the Commission were invited to vote again on the proposals published in BZN 63: 21. At the close of the voting period on 1 September 2007 the votes were as follows:

Affirmative votes – 12: Halliday, Kottelat, Krell, Lamas, Lim, Mahnert, Mawatari, Ng, Papp, Patterson, Štys and Zhang.

Negative votes – 11: Alonso-Zarazaga, Bogutskaya, Brothers, Fautin, Grygier, Kerzhner, Kullander, Pape, Pyle, Rosenberg and van Tol.

Bouchet abstained. Minelli was on leave of absence.

The case received a majority of the votes cast on the second vote but since the two-thirds majority required under Bylaw 35 was not achieved the proposals were not approved.

Abstaining, Bouchet observed that the systematics of *Orobothriurus* is still an active research area. As long as there is only one species of *Orobothriurus* on the Sierra del Tontal, there is no need to replace the holotype. Grygier considered that there does not seem to be an exceptional need involving a complex zoological problem (Article 75.3 of the Code) and that stability and universality do not appear to be threatened at present (Article 85.5 of the Code).

### **Original reference**

The following is the original reference to the name placed on an Official List by the ruling in Opinion 2074:

*bivittatus*, *Cercophonius brachycentrus*, Thorell, 1877, *Atti della Società Italiana di Scienze Naturali*, **19**: 183.