

OPINION 2248 (Case 3470)***Halectinosoma* Vervoort, 1962 (Crustacea, Copepoda, Harpacticoida):
usage conserved**

Abstract. The Commission has conserved the usage of the name *Halectinosoma* Vervoort, 1962 for a common genus of primarily marine harpacticoid copepods in the family ECTINOSOMATIDAE. The name *Halectinosoma* was threatened by the senior subjective synonym *Pararenosetella* Lang, 1944 (type species *Ectinosoma erythropros* Brady, 1880). All previous type fixations for *Halectinosoma* Vervoort, 1962 were set aside and *Ectinosoma chrystalii* Scott, 1894 has been designated as the type species. *Halectinosoma* Vervoort, 1962 has also been given precedence over *Pararenosetella* Lang, 1944 whenever the two names are considered to be synonyms.

Keywords. Nomenclature; taxonomy; Copepoda; Harpacticoida; ECTINOSOMATIDAE; *Halectinosoma*; *Pararenosetella*; *Pararenosetella erythropros*; *Halectinosoma chrystalii*; harpacticoid copepods; cosmopolitan.

Ruling

- (1) Under the plenary power:
 - (a) all previous fixations of type species for the nominal genus *Halectinosoma* Vervoort, 1962 are hereby set aside and *Ectinosoma chrystalii* Scott, 1894 is hereby designated as the type species;
 - (b) the generic name *Halectinosoma* Vervoort, 1962 is hereby given precedence over the name *Pararenosetella* Lang, 1944, whenever the two are considered to be synonyms.
- (2) The following names are hereby placed on the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology:
 - (a) *Halectinosoma* Vervoort, 1962 (gender: neuter), type species by subsequent designation *Ectinosoma chrystalii* Scott, 1894 as ruled in (1)(a) above, with the endorsement that it is to be given precedence over the name *Pararenosetella* Lang, 1944 whenever the two names are considered to be synonyms;
 - (b) *Pararenosetella* Lang, 1944 (gender: feminine), type species by original designation *Ectinosoma erythropros* Brady, 1880, with the endorsement that it is not to be given priority over the name *Halectinosoma* Vervoort, 1962 whenever the two names are considered to be synonyms.
- (3) The following names are hereby placed on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology:
 - (a) *chrystalii* Scott, 1894, as published in the binomen *Ectinosoma chrystalii* (specific name of the type species of *Halectinosoma* Vervoort, 1962, as ruled in (1)(a) above);
 - (b) *erythropros* Brady, 1880, as published in the binomen *Ectinosoma erythropros* (specific name of the type species of *Pararenosetella* Lang, 1944).

History of Case 3470

An application to conserve the widespread usage of the name *Halectinosoma* Vervoort, 1962 for a common genus of primarily marine harpacticoid copepods in the family ECTINOSOMATIDAE was received from Rony Huys (*Natural History Museum, London, U.K.*) on 4 June 2008. After correspondence the case was published in BZN 65: 276–281 (December 2008). The title, abstract and keywords of the case were published on the Commission's website. No comments were received on this case.

Decision of the Commission

On 1 December 2009 the members of the Commission were invited to vote on the proposals published in BZN 65: 279. At the close of the voting period on 1 March 2010 the votes were as follows:

Affirmative votes – 18: Ballerio, Brothers, Grygier, Halliday, Harvey, Kojima, Krell, Lamas, Lim, Minelli, Ng, Patterson, Papp, Rosenberg, Winston, Yanega, Zhang and Zhou.

Negative votes – 9: Alonso-Zarazaga, Bogutskaya, Bouchet, Fautin, Kottelat, Kullander, Pape, Štys, and van Tol.

Pyle was on leave of absence.

Voting FOR, Grygier observed that the matters brought forth in this case might also be solved by selection of a neotype for *Ectinosoma sarsii* from among Sars's material. However, doing so would affect *H. pseudosarsi* (making it a junior synonym) and might be undesirable for the same reason mentioned at the end of paragraph 3 in the application, that no detailed description of males is available. It would also require Commission approval because of the admitted non-conspecificity of Sars's specimens with the nominal species itself. Grygier felt that on the whole, approval of the proposals was easier and satisfactory. Winston, also voting FOR, saw the case as reasonable in terms of stability and timely in view of current and future revisionary work.

Voting AGAINST, Alonso-Zarazaga said he could not understand the reason why a recent dubious name (*Halectinosoma*) was to be saved from being unused or from falling into synonymy beyond a personal liking of the applicant. The names are of interest for a few specialists; consequently Alonso-Zarazaga felt that the Principle of Priority must stand. He also drew attention to the fact that the case had raised no comments. Bouchet, also voting AGAINST, said that none of the species names of harpacticoid copepods involved in the application had been extensively used outside a small circle of copepodologists. None has economic importance, or been used as an ecological indicator, or a model organism. He saw no reason to butcher the provisions of the Code so extensively for so little result. Fautin, also voting AGAINST, commented that it seems that the identity of *Ectinosoma sarsii* is a taxonomic issue that can be resolved by designation of a neotype, which would also fix the genus-group concept. Kottelat, similarly voting AGAINST, suggested that this should have been two cases. The application indicated that the problem of the type species of *Halectinosoma* could be solved without the plenary power by designating a neotype for *H. sarsii*, for example a specimen of *H. chrysalii*. In the same vein, Kullander, voting AGAINST, observed that from the information provided in the case it was obvious that the type material of *E. sarsii* is lost and the diagnostics are uncertain. He said that a neotype should resolve the issue. Štys, voting

AGAINST, said that the taxonomic situation in the group concerned is complex, the classification was undergoing frequent changes, and even the applicant was envisaging potential further changes that might render the application rather redundant. Since the case is of a primary concern for the taxonomists studying Harpacticoida Štys believed that nomenclature would best be served by adherence to the Principle of Priority.

Original references

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

- chrystalii*, *Ectinosoma*, Scott, 1894, *Transactions of the Linnean Society of London. Ser. 2. Zoology*, **6**: 1–161, p. 92.
- erythrois*, *Ectinosoma*, Brady, 1880, *A monograph of the free and semi-parasitic Copepoda of the British Islands*, vol. 2, Ray Society, London, p. 12.
- Halectinosoma* Vervoort, 1962, *Publications of the Seto Marine Biological Laboratory*, **10**(2): 399.
- Pararenosetella* Lang, 1944, *Monographie der Harpacticiden (Vorläufige Mitteilung)*, Almqvist & Wiksells Boktryckeri, Uppsala, p. 6.