

**OPINION 2296** (Case 3525)***Tricoelia variopedata* Renier, [1804] (currently *Chaetopterus variopedatus*; Annelida, Polychaeta): specific name conserved**

**Abstract.** The Commission has conserved the widespread current usage of the polychaete name *Chaetopterus variopedatus* by ruling that it is available from Renier [1804b], despite the fact that this work was officially unpublished.

**Keywords.** Nomenclature; taxonomy; Polychaeta; CHAETOPTERIDAE; *Chaetopterus variopedatus*; Adriatic.

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**Ruling**

- (1) Under the plenary power it is hereby ruled that the specific name *variopedata*, as published in the binomen *Tricoelia variopedata* Renier, [1804b], is available from Renier [1804b].
- (2) The name *Chaetopterus* Cuvier, 1830 (gender: masculine), type species by monotypy *Chaetopterus pergamentaceus* Cuvier, 1830, is hereby placed on the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology.
- (3) The following names are hereby placed on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology:
  - (a) *variopedata* Renier, [1804b], as published in the binomen *Tricoelia variopedata* Renier, [1804b], ruled to be an available name in (1) above;
  - (b) *pergamentaceus* Cuvier, 1830, as published in the binomen *Chaetopterus pergamentaceus* Cuvier, 1830 (specific name of the type species of *Chaetopterus* Cuvier, 1830).
- (4) The entry for Renier, [1804b] in the Official Index of Works in Zoology is hereby amended to record that the name *variopedata*, as published in the binomen *Tricoelia variopedata* Renier, [1804b], is available from Renier [1804b], as ruled in (1) above, and that *Cerebratulus marginatus* Renier, 1804, *Polycitor crystallinus* Renier, 1804 and *Tubulanus polymorphus* Renier, 1804 are available as ruled in Opinions 477, 478 and 486).

**History of Case 3525**

An application to conserve the widespread current usage of the name *Chaetopterus variopedatus*, and amend the entry for Renier [1804b] in the Official Index of Works in Zoology, was received from Alexander I. Muir (*The Natural History Museum, London, U.K.*) and Mary E. Petersen (*Darling Marine Center, University of Maine, Walpole, Maine, U.S.A.*) on 24 May 2010. After correspondence the case was published in BZN **67**: 279–284 (2010). 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 2011 the members of the Commission were invited to vote on the proposals published in BZN **67**: 281–282. At the close of the voting period on 1 March 2012 the votes were as follows:

Affirmative votes – 22: Alonso-Zarazaga, Ballerio, Bouchet, Bogutskaya, Brothers, Fautin, Grygier, Halliday, Harvey, Kojima, Krell, Lim, Minelli, Pape, Papp, Patterson, Rosenberg, van Tol, Winston, Yanega, Zhang and Zhou.

Negative votes – 1: Štys.

Kullander split his vote, voting AGAINST proposals 1–3 and FOR proposal 4.

Kottelat, Ng and Pyle were on leave of absence. No vote was received from Lamas.

Voting FOR, Fautin commented that she was not persuaded by the concern that there were undescribed species because the name in question had been applied to a species complex. That would be a taxonomic concern, not a nomenclatural issue. She felt that granting the appeal of the petitioners would clear the way for the name to be used in taxonomy so the complex could be sorted out. She also noted a typographical error in paragraph 8, which states that paragraph 8 should be consulted, whereas paragraph 7 was meant.

Voting AGAINST, Štys said he generally did not favour unnecessary nomenclatural interventions prior to understanding taxonomy. The application explained that the name *Tricoelia variopedata* Renier, 1804 was in infrequent use for an unresolved complex of species. He noted that there was no information about any name-bearing type of the species name, whether extant, existing in the past or prospective – so he felt it unnecessary to put the name on the List when its application was in no way fixed and did not seem to be intended to be fixed, especially when it came from a suppressed work. Štys felt that if the authors of the application were right, then the species names used in recent papers on the species would change in most cases anyway.

### Original references

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

*Chaopterus* Cuvier, 1830, *Le règne animal distribué d'après son organisation, pour servir de base à l'histoire naturelle des animaux et d'introduction à l'anatomie comparée*, Nouvelle édition, vol. 3, Déterville & Crochard, Paris, p. 208.

*pergmentaceus*, *Chaopterus*, Cuvier, 1830, *Le règne animal distribué d'après son organisation, pour servir de base à l'histoire naturelle des animaux et d'introduction à l'anatomie comparée*, Nouvelle édition, vol. 3, Déterville & Crochard, Paris, p. 208.

*variopedata*, *Tricoelia*, Renier, [1804b], *Prospetto della classe dei vermin*, p. 18.