OPINION 1590

Pleuromma princeps Scott, 1894 (currently Gaussia princeps; Crustacea, Copepoda): specific name conserved

Ruling

(1) Under the plenary powers:

(a) it is hereby ruled that the specific name princeps Scott, 1894, as published in the binomen Pleuromma princeps, is not invalid by reason of its having been rejected before 1961 as a former secondary homonym of Metridia princeps Giesbrecht, 1889;

(b) the specific name melanotica Wolfenden, 1905, as published in the binomen Gaussia melanotica, is hereby suppressed for the purposes of the Principle of Priority but not for those of the Principle of Homonymy;

(c) all previous fixations of type species for the nominal genus Gaussia Wolfenden, 1905 are hereby set aside and Pleuromma princeps Scott, 1894 is designated as type species.

(2) The name Gaussia Wolfenden, 1905 (gender: feminine), type species designated in (1)(c) above Pleuromma princeps Scott, 1894, is hereby placed on the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology.

(3) The name princeps Scott, 1894, as published in the binomen Pleuromma princeps (specific name of the type species of Gaussia Wolfenden, 1905), is hereby placed on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology.

(4) The following names are hereby placed on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Specific Names in Zoology:

(a) melanotica Wolfenden, 1905, as published in the binomen Gaussia melanotica and as suppressed in (1)(b) above;

(b) scotti Giesbrecht, 1897, as published in the binomen Metridia scotti, a junior objective synonym of princeps Scott, 1894, as published in the binomen Pleuromma princeps, by effect of the ruling in (1)(a) above.

History of Case 2622

An application for the conservation of the specific name of Pleuromma princeps Scott, 1894 was received from Dr K. Hulsemann (Biologische Anstalt Helgoland, Hamburg, Fed. Rep. Germany) on 1 September 1987. After correspondence the case was published in BZN 45: 188–190 (September 1988). Notice of the case was sent to appropriate journals. No comments were received.

Decision of the Commission

On 1 December 1989 the members of the Commission were invited to vote on the proposals published in BZN 45: 189, with an additional proposal on the voting paper to set aside all previous fixations of type species for Gaussia Wolfenden, 1905 and to designate Pleuromma princeps Scott, 1897 as the type. It was emphasised that this involved no change in the effect of the proposals as published, but would achieve a more clearly worded ruling. At the close of the voting period on 1 March 1990 the votes were as follows:
Affirmative votes — 24: Bayer, Bock, Cocks, Corliss, Hahn, Halvorsen, Hepell, Kabata, Kraus, Lehtinen, Macpherson, Mahnert, Martins de Souza, Minelli, Mroczkowski, Nielsen, Nye, Ride, Savage, Schuster, Thompson (in part), Trjapitzin, Uéno, Willink

Negative votes — 3: Cogger, Dupuis and Holthuis.

No vote was received from Starobogatov.

Holthuis did not see that use of the name *scotti* Giesbrecht, 1897 for Scott’s species would cause any confusion. Thompson supported the conservation of the name *princeps* Scott, 1894, but said that the suppression of *melanotica* Wolfenden, 1905 was not needed.

**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:


