

OPINION 2260 (Case 3460)***Liburnia* Stål, 1866 (Insecta, Hemiptera, DELPHACIDAE): proposed designation of *Embolophora monoceros* Stål, 1855 as the type species**

Abstract. A proposal to fix the type species of the genus *Liburnia* Stål, 1866 as *Embolophora monoceros* Stål, 1855 for a genus of delphacid planthopper was not approved by the Commission. Commission action was not required, since *Liburnia* Stål, 1866 was proposed by its author as a junior objective synonym of *Embolophora* Stål, 1853. Consequently, the type species for both is *Embolophora monoceros* Stål, 1855, regardless of Stål's (1866) intentions.

Keywords. Nomenclature; taxonomy; DELPHACIDAE; *Liburnia*; *Embolophora*; *Embolophora monoceros*; delphacid planthopper; Afrotropical.

Ruling

- (1) It is hereby ruled that the application to fix the type species of the genus *Liburnia* Stål, 1866 as *Embolophora monoceros* Stål, 1855 for a genus of delphacid planthopper was not approved by the Commission.
- (2) The name *Liburnia* Stål, 1866, a junior objective synonym of *Embolophora* Stål, 1853 is hereby placed on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Generic Names in Zoology.

History of Case 3460

An application to fix the type species of the genus *Liburnia* Stål, 1866 as *Embolophora monoceros* Stål, 1855 for a genus of delphacid planthopper to make *Liburnia* Stål, 1866 a junior objective synonym of *Embolophora* Stål, 1853 was received from C.R. Bartlett (*University of Delaware, Newark, DE, U.S.A.*) on 4 April 2008. After correspondence the case was published in BZN 65: 183–187 (September 2008). 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 September 2009 the members of the Commission were invited to vote on the proposals published in BZN 65(3): 185. A majority of Commissioners voted FOR the Case but it failed to reach the two-thirds majority required for approval. In accordance with the Bylaws the Case was sent for a revote on 2 March 2010. At the close of the voting period on 2 June 2010 the votes were as follows:

Affirmative votes – 13: Ballerio, Bogutskaya, Bouchet, Fautin, Harvey, Krell, Kullander, Ng, Pape, Papp, Patterson, Winston and Yanega.

Negative votes – 13: Alonso-Zarazaga, Brothers, Grygier, Halliday, Kojima, Kottelat, Lamas, Lim, Minelli, Rosenberg, Štys, van Tol and Zhou.

Pyle and Zhang were on leave of absence.

Alonso-Zarazaga, voting AGAINST, said that strict application of the Code makes *Liburnia* Stål, 1866 an unnecessary replacement name for an available name

Embolophora Stål, 1853 (mentioned as a synonym originally for the first group of species). Consequently, the type species for both is *Embolophora monoceros* Stål, 1855, so the application was not necessary. The original description places no 'subgeneric name' in the second group and the author should not interpret Stål's intentions, which were not originally written. Alonso-Zarazaga felt the Commission should place *Liburnia* with type species by monotypy on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Names in Zoology, as a junior objective synonym of *Embolophora*. There is no need for the use of the plenary power in this case. Halliday, voting AGAINST, said that he changed his vote in the second round as he accepted the argument that Commission action was not required, since *Liburnia* is a junior objective synonym of *Embolophora*. Automatic application of the Code is enough to solve this problem. Kojima, voting AGAINST, said it was clear that Stål's (1866) division was not proposing subgenera and that *Liburnia* was proposed as an objective synonym of *Embolophora*, regardless of what Stål intended. The issue could be solved without asking for plenary ruling by the ICZN. Štys, voting AGAINST, also felt that no action by the Commission was needed, as the situation is fully covered by the Code.

Harvey commented that although this application seemed somewhat unnecessary and could be resolved by strict application of the Code, he voted FOR to resolve the situation.

Original reference

The following is the original reference to the name placed on Official Index by the ruling given in the present Opinion:

Liburnia, Stål, 1866, *Officina Norstedtiana*, Stockholm, Sweden, p. 179.