

OPINION 1933

Androctonus caucasicus Nordmann, 1840 (currently *Mesobuthus caucasicus*; Arachnida, Scorpiones): specific name conserved

Keywords. Nomenclature; taxonomy; Arachnida; Scorpiones; BUTHIDAE; *Mesobuthus caucasicus*.

Ruling

- (1) Under the plenary powers the specific name *caucasicus* Fischer von Waldheim, 1813, as published in the binomen *Scorpio caucasicus*, is hereby suppressed for the purposes of the Principle of Priority but not for those of the Principle of Homonymy.
- (2) The name *caucasicus* Nordmann, 1840, as published in the binomen *Androctonus caucasicus*, is hereby placed on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology.
- (3) The name *caucasicus* Fischer von Waldheim, 1813, as published in the binomen *Scorpio caucasicus* and as suppressed in (1) above, is hereby placed on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Specific Names in Zoology.

History of Case 3026

An application for the conservation of the specific name of *Androctonus caucasicus* Nordmann, 1840 was received from Dr Victor Fet (*Marshall University, Huntington, West Virginia, U.S.A.*) on 27 August 1996. After correspondence the case was published in BZN 55: 14–16 (March 1998). Notice of the case was sent to appropriate journals.

Decision of the Commission

On 1 December 1998 the members of the Commission were invited to vote on the proposals published in BZN 55: 15. At the close of the voting period on 1 March 1999 the votes were as follows:

Affirmative votes — 21: Bock, Bouchet, Brothers, Cocks, Eschmeyer, Heppell, Kabata, Kerzhner, Kraus, Macpherson, Mahnert, Martins de Souza, Mawatari, Minelli, Nielsen, Nye, Papp, Patterson, Savage, Schuster, Song

Negative votes — 2: Lehtinen and Štys.

No votes were received from Cogger and Dupuis.

Ride was on leave of absence.

Štys commented that he would have preferred the specific name of *Scorpio caucasicus* Fischer von Waldheim, 1813 to be treated as a nomen dubium rather than suppressed.

Original references

The following are the original references to the names placed on an Official List and an Official Index by the ruling given in the present Opinion:

- caucasicus*, *Androctonus*, Nordmann, 1840, Notice sur les scorpions de la faune pontique. In: *Voyage dans la Russie méridionale et la Crimée, par la Hongrie, la Valachie et la Moldavie, exécuté en 1837* ..., vol. 3, p. 731.
- caucasicus*, *Scorpio*, Fischer von Waldheim, 1813, *Zoognosia tabulis synopticis illustrata* ..., Ed. 3, vol. 1, p. 401.