

Jacobus J. van Aartsen (*)

NOMENCLATURAL NOTES I. ON *ACTAEOPYRAMIS* AS RELATED TO
MONOPTYGMA, *MONOTIGMA* AND *MONOTYGMA* (**)

Riassunto:

Si dimostra che il nome generico *Actaeopyramis* FISCHER, 1885 è sinonimo superfluo per *Monotygma* GRAY, 1847. Quest'ultimo non è errore di stampa per *Monoptygma* LEA, 1833, bensì un genere di Pyramidellidae con *Monotygma striata* GRAY, 1847 quale tipo.

Summary:

It is shown that the genusname *Actaeopyramis* FISCHER, 1885 is a superfluous substitute for *Monotygma* GRAY, 1847. The latter is not a printing error for *Monoptygma* LEA, 1833, but is a pyramidellid-genus with *Monotygma striata* GRAY, 1847 as its type.

The pyramidellid-genus *Actaeopyramis* was introduced by FISCHER (1885: 787) as a subgenus to *Pyramidella* as follows «S.g. *Actaeopyramis*, FISCHER, 1885. (*Monotygma*, GRAY, 1840, err. typ. pro *Monoptygma*; non *Monoptygma*, LEA, 1833). ... (*A. striata* GRAY)».

However, we know from the work of IREDALE (1913) that all the names introduced by GRAY in 1840 (in «Synopsis of the Contents of the British Museum» 42nd edition) are nomina nuda. Moreover, the Synopsis is a very rare work which only few people have ever seen according to IREDALE (1913: 294).

All later authors, dealing with pyramidellid-genera, repeated FISCHER, apparently without checking, viz. TRYON (1886: 297), DALL & BARTSCH (1909: 17 note 9), COSSMANN (1921: 251) and WENZ (1940: 850). THIELE (1929: 233) mentions *Actaeopyramis* as a new name for *Monoptygma* A. ADAMS, 1851 non LEA, 1833.

SOWERBY (1839: 66) mentions both *Monoptygma* LEA, with a figure of *M. elegans* (fig. 344) and *Monotigma* GRAY, referring to fig. 371. In the third edition of his work, SOWERBY (1846: 192) again mentions *Monotigma* GRAY with the additional words: «It is a turreted shell, but we are unacquainted with the characters of the genus». Reference is again made to fig. 371, which is identical to the same figure in the first edition. The explanation by this figure (page 305) reads: «*Monotygma* GRAY». No species name is added in either edition.

(*) Adm. Helfrichlaan 33, 6952GB Dieren, The Netherlands.

(**) Lavoro accettato il 7 febbraio 1986.

It can thus be concluded that SOWERBY deals with two genera viz. *Monoptygma* J. LEA, 1833 and *Monotygya* or *Monotigma* GRAY, based on figure 371. Both latter names are evidently nomina nuda and one is clearly a printing error for the other. In this connection it is relevant to note that GRAY (1840: 148) as reprinted in IREDALE, 1913: 297) wrote *Monotygya* for a genus which he then placed in his family 6, *Tornatellidae*. As indicated above, *Monotygya* GRAY, 1840, is also a nomen nudum.

In the well-known publication of GRAY (1847) both *Monoptygma* LEA and *Monotygya* GRAY are cited separately. We here reproduce exactly Gray's text:

(1847: 140) 81. ? *Monoptygma*, sp. J. LEA, 1833. *Monop. alabamensis*, J. LEA. ? *Monoptygma* sp. LEA. *Monotigma* or *Monotygya*, G. SOWERBY. *Mon. elegans*, LEA.

(1847: 159) 285. *Monotygya* GRAY, in Sow. Man. 183; not LEA. *Monot. striata* GRAY, Sow. f. 371.

Although these entries complicate matters still more, it is evident, that *Monotygya* GRAY, 1847, is based on fig. 371 in Sowerby's Conchological Manual, representing a shell called *Monotygya striata* GRAY, 1847.

It is thus established that *Monotygya* GRAY, 1847, is not a printing error for *Monoptygma* LEA, 1833, but is a pyramidellid-genus with *Monotygya striata* GRAY, 1847, as its type species by monotypy. *Actaeopyramis* FISCHER, 1885, is a superfluous synonym of *Monotygya* GRAY, 1847, based on the same type species.

Note that *M. striata* has been described by A. ADAMS (1851: 222; 1854: 816) and refigured by the same author (1854: pl. 172 fig. 18) as *Monoptygma striata* GRAY. Later on, ADAMS (1860: 406) placed a number of the species which he originally described as *Monoptygma* in his own new genus *Myonia* A. ADAMS, 1860 not DANA, 1847. The type species of *Myonia* A. ADAMS is *Myonia japonica* A. ADAMS, 1860 by monotypy.

THIELE (1929: 233) considers *Actaeopyramis* P. FISCHER, 1885 to be a subgenus of *Kleinella* A. ADAMS, 1860 [type species: *Kleinella cancellaris* A. ADAMS, 1860, by monotypy]. In my opinion the large, more or less cylindrical shells of *Monotygya* (= *Actaeopyramis*) and the small, nearly sphaerical and umbilicated shells of *Kleinella* [see the figure of *K. cancellaris* in WENZ, 1940: 849 fig. 2482] are so totally different that I cannot agree with Thiele and consider both names to represent different genera.

Monoptygma LEA, 1833, is again a different genus, the type of which is *Monoptygma alabamensis* LEA, 1833, subsequently designated by GRAY, 1847.

L I T E R A T U R E

- ADAMS A., 1851 - A monograph of the genus *Monoptygma* LEA. *Proc. zool. Soc. Lond.* **19**: 222-224.
- ADAMS A., 1854 - in: G.B. SOWERBY, *Theasaurus conchyliorum*, or monographs of genera of shells. The genus *Monoptygma* LEA. Vol. 2 (15): 816-820, pl. 172.
- ADAMS A., 1860 - On some New Genera and Species of Mollusca from Japan. *Ann. mag. Nat. Hist.* (3) **5**: 405-413.
- COSSMANN M., 1921 - *Essais de Paléoconchologie comparée*. Vol. 12: 1-349. Paris.
- DALL W.H. & P. BARTSCH, 1909 - A Monograph of the West American pyramidellid mollusks. *Proc. U.S. nation Mus.*, Bull. 68; 1-258.
- FISCHER P., 1880-1887 - *Manuel de Conchyliologie et de Paléontologie conchyologique*: 1-1369. Paris.
- GRAY J.E., 1847 - A List of the genera of Recent Mollusca, their synonyma and types. *Proc. zool. Soc. Lond.* **15**: 129-219.
- IREDALE T., 1913 - A collation of the molluscan parts of the Synopses of the contents of the British Museum, 1838-1845. *Proc. mal. Soc. Lond.* **10** (4): 294-309.
- SOWERBY G.B., 1839 - *A Conchological Manual*. London.
- SOWERBY G.B., 1846 - *Ibid.*, 3d. edition. London.
- THIELE J., 1929 - *Handbuch der systematischen Weichtierkunde*. Vol. 1 part. 1: 1-376. Jena.
- TRYON G.W., 1886 - *Manual of Conchology ...* Vol. 8. Philadelphia.
- WENZ W., 1938-1944 - *Gastropoda. Allgemeiner Teil und Prosobranchier*. *Handb. Paläozool.* **6** (1): I-XII, 1-1639.



Aartsen, Jacobus Johannes van. 1986. "NOMENCLATURAL NOTES I. ON ACTAEOPYRAMIS AS RELATED TO MONOPTYGMA MONOTIGMA AND MONOTYGMA." *Bollettino malacologico* 22, 182–184.

View This Item Online: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/199255>

Permalink: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/partpdf/184314>

Holding Institution

Smithsonian Libraries and Archives

Sponsored by

Biodiversity Heritage Library

Copyright & Reuse

Copyright Status: In Copyright. Digitized with the permission of the rights holder

Rights Holder: Società Italiana di Malacologia

License: <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc/3.0/>

Rights: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/permissions/>

This document was created from content at the **Biodiversity Heritage Library**, the world's largest open access digital library for biodiversity literature and archives. Visit BHL at <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org>.