

SCHISTODERA COBB, 1920 (NEMATODA: ENOPLIDA),
A REQUEST FOR SUPPRESSION; *OXYSTOMINA* FILIPJEV,
1921 PROPOSED FOR THE OFFICIAL LIST. Z.N.(S.)2031

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Oxystomina Filipjev, 1921 (:565) is the type-genus of the marine nematode super-family Oxystominoidea Chitwood, 1935. Filipjev (1921) proposed the name *Oxystomina* as a replacement of *Oxystoma* Bütschli, 1874 (: 270) which is preoccupied by *Oxystoma* Dumeril, 1806 (Insecta).

2. Among the several names that have been accepted by systematists as synonyms of ¹*Oxystomina*, two have publication dates earlier than that of *Oxystomina*, i.e., *Acoma* Steiner, 1916, and *Schistodera* Cobb, 1920. *Acoma* Steiner, 1916, is a junior homonym of *Acoma* Casey, 1890 and is, therefore, invalid.

3. *Schistodera*, which is an available name has been used on but one occasion since it was first published by Cobb (1920); this was in "A Synopsis of the Families and Genera of Nematoda" by Baylis and Daubney (1926). Here, both *Schistodera* and *Oxystomina* were listed as separate valid genera. Further, these authors were aware that *Oxystoma* Bütschli, 1874 was preoccupied, and they renamed the genus "*Oxystomina*" with the note that "The name *Oxystomina* has, we believe, been proposed to replace the preoccupied name *Oxystoma*. We are unfortunately unable to trace its author and date of publication" (p. 97). Thus, *Oxystomina* sensu Baylis and Daubney, 1926, is both a junior homonym and a junior synonym of *Oxystomina* Filipjev, 1921.

4. Since Baylis and Daubney's publication, *Schistodera* Cobb, 1920 has been listed as a "junior" synonym of *Oxystomina* Filipjev, 1921 in every instance where it has appeared in the literature (Coninck, L. A. de, 1965; Filipjev, I. N., 1934; Kreis, H. A., 1929; Schuurmans Stekhoven, J. H., 1935; and Wieser, W., 1953). That *Oxystomina* has been accepted as the valid name of the genus in question is further evidenced by the additional occasions (Allgen, C., 1932; Chitwood, B. G., 1937; Filipjev, I. N., 1927; Gerlach, S. A., 1954; Vitiello, P., 1970; and others) upon which it has been used, even though the name *Schistodera* was not cited as a synonym or otherwise mentioned.

5. In view of the general acceptance of *Oxystomina* Filipjev, 1921 as the valid name of the genus in question by those concerned with the systematics of marine nematodes, and of the inconvenience that would result in changing the name of this genus the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature is asked:

¹The spelling of *Oxystomina* has been modified by Schuurmans Stekhoven (1935) and others to *Oxystomatina*. The latter name is an unjustified emendation and is, therefore, a junior objective synonym of *Oxystomina*.

- (1) to use its plenary powers to suppress the generic name *Schistoder* Cobb, 1920, for the purposes of the Law of Priority but not for those of the Law of Homonymy;
- (2) to place the generic name *Oxystomina* Filipjev (gender : feminine), type-species, by monotypy through *Oxystoma* Bütschli, 1874, *Oxystoma elongatum* Bütschli, 1874, on the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology;
- (3) to place the specific name *elongatum* Bütschli, 1874, as published in the binomen *Oxystoma elongata*[sic] (type-species of *Oxystomina* Filipjev, 1921) on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology;
- (4) to place the generic name *Schistodera* Cobb, 1920 (as suppressed under the plenary powers in (1) above) on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Generic Names in Zoology.

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