

ON SOME SUFFIX CHANGES CONCERNING THE SPECIES-GROUP NAMES OF THE ORBITOIDIDAE FAMILY

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ABSTRACT. — In this article, the necessity of some suffix changes concerning the species names of the Orbitoididae family is explained. And for this purpose, some examples are also given.

In 1967, B. F. Ellis and A. R. Messina pointed out that some changes had been made in the species-group names of the genus *Orbitoides* (Orbitoidinae sub-family of Orbitoididae) (Catalogue of Larger Index Foraminifera, vol. 3). Although seven years passed since then, most of the authors working in this field have not adopted these changes. Old nomenclature continues to be used in research work on the Orbitoidinae sub-family and not much attention has been paid to the corrections. This probably results from the desire to use the old familiar names.

If a name given to a genus is masculine the name following this should also be masculine; if the first is feminine, the second must also be of the same gender. «Article 30 (A) (ii) of the International Code of Zoological Nomenclature reads in part: Names ending in *ides*, *istes*, *ites*, *odes* or *oides* are masculine. Therefore, *Orbitoides* must be considered masculine in gender. Article 30 begins: A species-group name, if an adjective in the nominative is singular, must agree in gender with the generic name with which it is at any time combined, and its termination must be changed, if necessary, when the species is transferred to another genus. Article 32 makes this provision mandatory. Thus, it is necessary to change the feminine specific names «*media*» and «*apiculata*» to the equivalent masculine forms «*medius*» and «*apiculatus*», so that they agree in gender with the masculine generic name «*Orbitoides*» (A. R. Messina, 1967, personal comm.).

Therefore, according to the statements made above *Orbitoides* is masculine, as it terminates with «*oides*», and the species name should be assigned accordingly. Therefore the names *Orbitoides media* (d'Archiac), *Orbitoides apiculata* Schlumberger and *Orbitoides caucasica* Bogdanovich, which were accepted earlier, should be corrected as *Orbitoides medirts* (d'Archiac), *Orbitoides apiculatus* Schlumberger and *Orbitoides causicus* Bogdanovich. The name *Orbitolites media* first proposed by d'Archiac was changed as *Orbitoides media* (d'Archiac) by d'Orbigny in 1848. Later this genus was named as *Orbitella media* (H. Douville, 1920; E. Marchesini, 1941; M. Ruiz de Gaona, 1948) and *Orbitella apiculata* (H. Douville, 1915 and 1920; E. Marchesini, 1941; M. Ruiz de Gaona, 1948).

It seems that it would be more appropriate to change the genus name rather than the species name. Actually the species names *media* and *apiculata* are correct in relation to the genus names *Orbitella*. The author believes, however, that the genus names should be maintained and the changes should be made in the names at the species level.

After the *Orbitoides* had been named in 1848 many workers studied different species of this genus, but no one made any changes in the species names until 1967. The only species of the *Omphalocyclus* (Bronn, 1853), a typical organism of the Orbitoididae had been named as *Omphalocyclus macropora* (Lamarck) and this name was changed to *Omphalocyclus macroporus* (Lamarck)

in 1955 (H. H. Renz), after long usage. This species name has been accepted without any objection. Again of the Orbitoidinae sub-family, *Orbitoides (Simplorbites) gensacica* (Leymerie) was changed to *Orbitoides (Simplorbites) gensaciens* (Leymerie) in 1958 (M. Neumann) and this usage also has continued until today. Therefore, *Orbitoides media*, *Orbitoides apiculata* and *Orbitoides caucasica* should be corrected as *Orbitoides medins*, *Orbitoides apiculatus* and *Orbitoides cancasicus*.

Similarly if we survey the family Nummulitidae we would encounter the following changes: *Nummulites planulala* Lamarck, *Nummulites planulatus* Lamarck (1911); *N. spirectypa* L. Doncieux, *N. spirectypus* L. Doncieux (1929); *N. incrassala* de la Harpe, *N. incrassatus* de la Harpe (1911); *N. vasca* Joly-Leymerie, *N. vascus* Joly-Leymerie (1911); *N. contorta* Deshayes, *N. conlor-tus* Deshayes (1929); *N. striata* Bruguiere, *N. striatus* Bruguiere (1929); *N. pulchella* von Hantken, *N. pulchellus* von Hantken (1929); *N. variolaria* Lamarck, *N. variolarius* Lamarck (1929); *N. discorbina* Schlotheim, *N. discorbinus* Schlotheim (1929); *N. aquitanica* Benoist, *N. aquitanicus* Benoist (1929); *N. girondica* Benoist, *N. girondicus* Benoist (1929); *N. laevigata* Bruguiere, *N. laevigatus* Bruguiere (1902); *N. intermedia* d'Archiac, *N. intermedius* d'Archiac (1911); *N. helvetica* Kaufmann, *N. helveticus* Kaufmann (1929); *N. atacica* Leymerie, *N. atacicus* Leymerie (1911).

Outside of the Nummulitidae family, the characteristic organism of the sub-family Orbitolitininae of the Peneroplidae family *Orbitolites complanatus* Lamarck had been called *Orbitolites complanata* Lamarck until 1855. *Eponides namis* (Reuss) (Rotaliinae sub-family, Rotaliidae family) had been called *Rotalia nana* Reuss until 1931.

Loftusia anatolica Meriç, a characteristic organism of the Upper Cretaceous, and *Monophyl-lites anatolicus* Toulou can be given as other examples. Here the species names of the two organisms, a Foraminifera and a Cephalopoda, are the same. But according to their genus names one is called *anatolica* and the other *anatolicus*.

A last example concerning the subject can be given from a recent change. In 1972 F. Magniez named a foraminifera as *Spiroplectammoides productus* Magniez. But this name was changed as *Novalesia producta* Magniez in 1974 because the same genus name was given to another foraminifera in 1969. Thus it becomes evident that the species names and their endings are selected according to the genus names.

Many examples concerning the subject can be shown. But the author believes that the above-mentioned ones and the stated principles should suffice to convince his colleagues who work in this field.

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