

Removal of Homonymy between Urostylidae DALLAS, 1851 (Insecta, Heteroptera) and Urostylidae BÜTSCHLI, 1889 (Ciliophora, Hypotrichia)

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Abstract

The grammatically correct spelling Urostylididae is accepted for Urostylidae DALLAS, 1851 (Insecta, Heteroptera) to remove homonymy with Urostylidae BÜTSCHLI, 1889 (Ciliophora, Hypotrichia).

Key words: Ciliophora; family; Heteroptera; homonymy; Insecta; nomenclature; Protozoa; taxonomy; *Urostyla*; *Urostylis*.

Zusammenfassung

Die grammatikalisch korrekte Schreibweise Urostylididae wird anstatt Urostylidae DALLAS, 1851 (Insecta, Heteroptera) anerkannt, um sie aus der Homonymie mit Urostylidae BÜTSCHLI, 1889 (Ciliophora, Hypotrichia) zu lösen.

The family names Urostylidae DALLAS, 1851 (Insecta) and Urostylidae BÜTSCHLI, 1889 (Ciliophora) are homonyms from similar generic names. DALLAS (1851, p. 313) established the heteropteran family Urostylidae based on *Urostylis* WESTWOOD, 1837. The family name is in use; the family comprises less than ten genera and about ninety species distributed in the Oriental Region and the Eastern Palaearctic Region (SCHUH & SLATER 1995, p. 245). Species of this family are phytophagous, living on trees; none of them is of serious economic importance.

BÜTSCHLI (1889, p. 1741) established the ciliophoran subfamily Urostylinae based on *Urostyla* EHRENBERG, 1830. Later, BORROR (1972, p. 8) raised it to family rank (Urostylidae BÜTSCHLI, 1889) and JANKOWSKI (1979, p. 73) to superfamily rank (Urostyloidea BÜTSCHLI, 1889). The family name is in use; the family comprises about 35 genera and about 150 species (data estimated from BERGER 2001).

The ciliophoran family name is grammatically correct, but the heteropteran one is not. *Urostylis* ends in "-stylis" (Greek: mast) with genitive "stylidos" (given in dictionaries). Accordingly, the stem for formation of family-group names is Urostylid- and the grammatically correct spelling of the family name would be Urostylididae (Articles 29.2 and 29.3.1 of the Code).

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This spelling seems to be only recently used (HENRY 1997, VINOKUROV & KANYUKOVA 1995a, 1995b). Under the 1st, 2nd and 3rd editions of the Code, Urostylididae had to be accepted as the correct spelling in any case, but under the 4th edition, automatic acceptance of this never (or nearly never?) used spelling contradicts to Articles 29.3.1.1 and 33.3, and the case should be referred to the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature (Article 55.3) for a ruling to remove the homonymy.

However, the only reasonable solution in this case is to accept the grammatically correct spelling of the heteropteran name. With this in mind, P.K. Tubbs, Secretary of the Commission, recommended us not to refer the case to the Commission and to change the spelling of the heteropteran name in our publication. We follow his advice. Accordingly, the heteropteran name should be spelled Urostylididae DALLAS, 1851.

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