

Origin of stonefly names proposed by

Ricker and collaborators

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Scientific names proposed for organisms should preferably be distinctive, euphonious and descriptive, in that order of importance. Latin and Greek roots have most commonly been employed, but there is no rule that makes this compulsory. In coining the immense number of names now in existence the classical languages have been rather thoroughly ransacked, so that it is hard to make a new generic name that is short and euphonious, and still harder to be sure it is new. Dr. Illies has suggested that for Plecoptera combinations with the ending "perla" are suitable. I have sometimes done this, but the result always sounds a bit awkward, and if all stonefly genera looked like that I just could not face it. With species names it is much easier to avoid synonymy because you need worry about duplication only within the genus under consideration. However, the multitude of species named *longus*, *brevis*, *latus* etc. give the impression that systematists tend to be an unimaginative lot. This may be true, but it is surely not an essential qualification for our profession.

To avoid these difficulties there are two rather obvious courses. One is to latinize familiar English words; for example, *Littlefellowus hairychestis* is quite a possible new name, and there is little chance that it would have been used earlier. The other plan is to make new words out of previously meaningless combinations of letters, as L. J. Milne did for a number of caddis flies. I have not been able to bring myself to use either of these

approaches. What I have done is take words from contemporary foreign languages and cast them into Latin form. Russian is the language used most often, but also Spanish and indigenous American tongues. Russian's different alphabet makes the borrowing less obvious, and in the case of Spanish I have sometimes been able to disguise the loan by changing the spelling to agree better with standard phonetics. For better or worse, these names now exist, and Dick Baumann has asked me to put down on paper what I can recall about their derivation.

In the list below I have marked a suggested accent for the new name, which is usually but not always the same as that in the word from which it was derived. Pronunciation should in general follow the rule of consonants as in English, vowels as in Italian. Where this rule does not hold I have shown a phonetic transcription in parentheses. Names now considered synonyms are marked by an asterisk.

Aoroneuria

†cuestae Ricker 1935. (ku-es-tai). The types are from the cuesta or escarpment that crosses southwestern Ontario.

Allocapnia

aurora Ricker 1952. It suddenly dawned on me that this must be a new species.

indianas Ricker 1952. The types are from Indiana.

loshada Ricker 1952. Russian loshad = horse. The types are from Horse Creek, West Virginia.

sandersoni Ricker 1952. Dr. M. W. Sanderson of the Illinois Natural History Survey collected the types.

†torontonensis Ricker 1935. The types are from near Toronto, Ontario.

zola Ricker 1952. Russian zola = ashes, and the types are from Ash Cave, Ohio. A very poor pun, but then I never expected to tell anyone about it.

NB Other *Allocapnia* have been described in two papers by Ross and Ricker, but Herb Ross is responsible for their names.

Allonarcys

scotti Ricker 1952. Dr. D. C. Scott is an aquatic biologist of the University of Georgia.

Alloperla

concolor Ricker 1935. An all green species.

idei Ricker 1935. Dr. F. P. Ide is a student of mayflies, and my companion during two summers of stream study in Ontario.

leonarda Ricker 1952. Dr. Justin W. Leonard and his wife Fan Leonard were students of aquatic insects.

medveda Ricker 1952. Russian medved = bear; the types are from the Bear Tooth Mountains, Montana.

milnei Ricker 1935. Dr. Lorus J. Milne is co-author of popular works on natural history; formerly a student of caddis flies.

thalia Ricker 1952. Thalia is the Muse of comedy, but I've forgotten what was amusing here.

usa Ricker 1952. Russian us = moustache, referring to the patch of hairs on the epiproct.

voinae Ricker 1948. (voy-nai). Russian voina = war. The type was collected during wartime.

vostoki Ricker 1948. Russian vostok = east. A species from the northeastern part of the continent.

Amphinemura

delosa Ricker 1952. Named for Dr. Shelby Delos Gerking, ichthyologist and ecologist from Indiana, now living in Tempe, Arizona.

linda Ricker 1952. Linda Skaar was my assistant for a few years in Indiana and she requested this name. (Not all girls consider it an honor to have a "bug" named after them; or so it was in those days.)

mockfordi Ricker 1952. Edward Mockford worked with Psocidae while a student at Indiana University; doubtless he still does.

varshava Ricker 1952. The types are from near Warsaw, Indiana (Polish Warszawa).

Attaneuria Richer 1955. This genus has been taken in the Ottawa River. I was making a short combination with "*neuria*", and "*Atta*" sounded better than "*Otta*".

Beadolus Ricker 1952. Russian bez = without, dolya = lobe or share. This genus lacks the vesicle.

Bolotoperla Ricker and Ross 1975. Russian boloto = swamp or bog. The types of *B. rossi* came from a boggy stream, I believe.

Bolahecapnia Ricker 1965. Russian bolshil = bigger.

gregsoni Ricker 1965. The first specimen was collected by Jack Gregson, entomologist and mountaineer of Kamloops, British Columbia.

rogosera Ricker 1965. Russian rog = horn or antler, ozero = lake. The type is from Moosehorn Lake.

sasquatchi Ricker 1965. (sas-kwa-chi). Sasquatch are the yeti of Western North America, familiar to and feared by the Indians. The type came from the Fraser River not far from Ruby Creek, scene of a well-authenticated sasquatch incident.

spenceri Ricker 1965. Dr. G. J. Spencer was an entomologist and naturalist at the University of British Columbia.

Calineuria Ricker 1955. The "Cal" part comes from California; "neuria" is from the end of acroneuria. The type species is *californica*.

Capnia

bergi Ricker 1965. The types were collected by Dr. Clifford O. Berg of Cornell University.

cheama Ricker 1965.(chi-a-ma) Mt. Cheam is a landmark on the south side of the Fraser River near the type locality.

hantzschii Ricker 1938. Bernard Hantzsch was a Moravian missionary, explorer and naturalist in the eastern arctic.

sugluka Ricker 1965. Sugluk is an Eskimo settlement on the south side of Hudson Strait.

beringi Ricker 1965. Named for Vitus Berling, or for the Sea near which specimens were taken.

labradora Ricker 1955. The types are from Labrador.

Cheronkrilus Ricker 1952. Russian chernyi = black; krylo = wing.

Chloroperla

ovibovis Ricker 1965. The types were collected at Muskox Lake (muskox = *Ovibos*).

Cultus Ricker 1952. The species *pilatus* is common near Cultus Lake, which was supposed to harbour a monster. In west coast chinook cultus = no good, useless or tabu.

fraseri Ricker 1943. Named for the Fraser River.

tostonus Ricker 1952. Toston, Montana, is the type locality.

Despaxia Ricker 1943. Professor R. Despax of Toulouse was a keen student of stoneflies.

Dolkrila Ricker 1952. Russian *dolgii* = long, *Krylo* = wing. Contrasts with brachypterous *Diura bicaudata*.

Frisonia Ricker 1943. Dr. T. H. Frison was one of the great American plecopterists.

walkeri Ricker 1943. Dr. E. M. Walker was an entomologist and naturalist of the University of Toronto, best known for his work with Odonata and *Grylloblatta*, the cricket-cockroach.

Hastaperla Ricker 1935. Latin *hasta* = spear; refers to the pointed aedeagal sclerites.

calcareas Ricker 1935. The types were from a limestone escarpment stream of southern Ontario.

chilnualna Ricker 1952. The type locality is the Chilnualna River in Yosemite Park, California.

Helopicus Ricker 1952. Chinook *helo* or *halo* = no, none; Latin *picus* = lance, pike. This genus lacks lateral stylets on the epiproct.

Hesperoperla

okanagan Ricker 1935. From Okanagan Lake, British Columbia.

Isocapnia

agassizi Ricker 1943. Agassiz is a town in British Columbia on the north side of the lower Fraser River. It has an Experimental Farm that has served as a base for a number of entomologists.

fraseri Ricker 1959. The Fraser River is the type locality.

hyalita Ricker 1959. Hyalite Creek is the type locality, southwest of Bozeman, Montana. Hyalite is a transparent mineral found thereabout
missouri Ricker 1959. The type locality is Toston, Montana, on the Missouri River.

mogila Ricker 1959. Russian mogila = grave; the allotype is from Grave Creek, a tributary of the Rogue River in Oregon.

spenceri Ricker 1943. Stanley Spencer of Cultus Lake, British Columbia, collected the type. He was showing an active interest in entomology, but was killed in the second world war.

thujas Ricker 1943. The type was captured on a log of western cedar (*Thuja occidentalis*).

vedderensis 1943. The Chilliwack River becomes the Vedder River at Vedder Crossing, then runs into the Fraser. Vedder is the name of an early settler.

Isogenoides

hansonii Ricker 1952. Dr. J. F. Hanson of the University of Connecticut formerly worked with stoneflies.

krumholzi Ricker 1952. Dr. Louis A. Krumholz is a fishery biologist of the University of Louisville.

Isoperla

cotta Ricker 1952. The type locality is Terra Cotta, a village on the Credit River in Ontario.

Kogotus Ricker 1952. Russian kogot = claw or nail. Refers to the lobe on the 7th sternite of the male.

Kohnoperla Ricker and Ross 1975. Named for Dr. Mitsuko Kohno, well-known student of Japanese stoneflies.

Lednia Ricker 1952. Russian led = ice. The types were collected by a cold stream in Glacier National Park, Montana, although I don't remember that there was actually any ice nearby at the time.

tumana Ricker 1952. Russian tuman = mist; it was a foggy day.

Leuctra

baddecka Ricker 1965. Baddeck is a town on Cape Breton Island, Nova Scotia, best known because Alexander Graham Bell made the first hydrofoil boat there, as well as numerous other gadgets.

moha Ricker 1952. Russian mokh = moss. The types are from Mossy Creek, Georgia.

Malenka Ricker 1952. Russian malenkii = little.

tina Ricker 1952. Probably from English tiny. Russian tina = mud or ooze, and has no obvious relationship.

Wenatchee Ricker 1965. (we-na-chi). Types were taken close to Lake Wenatchee, Washington.

Malirekus Ricker 1952. Russian malyi = small, reka = river. *M. hastatus* is abundant in small brooks.

Megaleuctra

neavei Ricker 1935. (ni-vi). Named for Dr. Ferris Neave, who established the genus *Megaleuctra*.

Megarcys

watertoni Ricker 1952. The type locality is in Waterton Lakes National Park, Alberta.

Mesiyatsia Ricker and Ross 1975. Russian mesyats = month, also poetically = moon. The type species is *lunata* Kimmins.

Mosalia Ricker 1943. Mr. Martin E. Mosely, a volunteer worker at the British Museum (Natural History), worked with caddis flies and stoneflies.

Neaviperla Ricker 1943. (Ni-vi-per-la). Dr. Ferris Neave, now of Nanaimo, British Columbia, formerly worked with stoneflies.

Nemoura

normani Ricker 1952. The type is from Fort Norman on the Mackenzie River.

Neoperla

hubbsi Ricker 1952. The type was collected by Dr. Carl L. Hubbs of La Jolla, California, well-known ichthyologist, naturalist, and conservationist.

Oemopteryx

fosketti Ricker 1965. Named for biologist Dudley Foskett, who collected many specimens of this species at Saskatoon, Saskatchewan.

zelona Ricker 1965. Russian zelenyi = green. The types were erroneously listed from the Green River, Utah.

Okamotoerla Ricker and Ross 1975. Dr. H. Okamoto was the pioneer Japanese plecopterist.

Osobenus Ricker 1952. Russian osobennyi = unusual, peculiar. Refers to the distinctive structure of the epiproct.

Ostrocerca Ricker 1952. Russian ostryi = sharp, referring to the sharp tips of the elongated cerci.

foersteri Ricker 1943. Dr. R. E. Foerster is the fishery biologist who established the salmon research station at Cultus Lake, British Columbia, into which I smuggled a certain amount of entomological activity.

Ostrovus Ricker 1952. Russian *óstrov* = island. The genus occurs on the Island of Honshu.

Paragnetina

fattigi Ricker 1949. Dr. P. W. Fattig of Emory University, Georgia, collected the types.

fumosa Ricker 1935. The name refers to the smoky wings.

salvelini Ricker 1935. The types were from streams harbouring native brook trout or char (*Salvelinus fontinalis*).

Paraleuctra

dusha Ricker 1965. Russian *dusha* = soul, spirit. "Refers obliquely to the type locality, which . . . became a ghost town; and perhaps also to this species, which may prove to be insubstantial."

It is actually a gynandromorph.

vershina Gaufin and Ricker 1975. Russian *vershina* = summit, referring to the mountainous territory where this species occurs.

Paraperla

wilsoni Ricker 1965. Named for Carl Wilson of Vedder Crossing, British Columbia: school teacher, fisherman and outdoorsman.

Peltoperla

laurie Ricker 1952. This carries on the Needham and Smith tradition of girls' names for this genus.

Podnosta Ricker 1952. Russian *pod* = under, *most* = bridge. All plecopterists know that the under surface of bridges with smooth concrete walls is one of the best places for finding adult stoneflies.

rossi Ricker 1952. Dr. H. H. (Herb) Ross is a very well known entomologist, who has worked with caddis flies, stoneflies and other groups; now at the University of Georgia.

- macdunnoughi* Ricker 1948. (mak-dun-no-1). Dr. J. McDunnough was for many years director of the Entomological Branch, Department of Agriculture, Ottawa; he worked with mayflies and Lepidoptera.
- weberi* Ricker 1952. Dr. N. A. Weber collected the types.
- Prostola* Ricker 1952. (pro-stoy-a). Russian prostoi = simple, referring to the uncomplicated epiproct.
- besametaa* Ricker 1952. Russian bez = without, samets = male. At one time I had many female specimens but no males.
- Razvena* Ricker 1952. Russian vena = vein; raz is a prefix that suggests that something is different or out of control.
- Remenus* Ricker 1952. Russian remen = strap, thong. Refers to the long lash at the tip of the epiproct.
- Setvena* Ricker 1952. Russian set = net, vena = vein. Refers to the apical network.
- Shipea* Ricker 1952. Russian shohiptsy = pincers, referring to the hooks on the 10th tergite.
- Skwala* Ricker 1943. The name of a clan of Salish Indians living near Sardis, British Columbia.
- Soliperla* Ricker 1952. This may be from Latin sol = sun, Russian sol = salt, English sole = only, or Italian solo = alone. I can't remember a connection with any of these, but suspect a reference to the fact that there was only one species in the genus when it was described. Stan Jewett has since added three more.
- Sopkalia* Ricker 1952. Russian sopka = volcano; the type is from Japan, which had the most famous volcano of them all.
- Soyedina* Ricker 1952. Russian soyedinit = to unite. Refers to the fusion of the anal veins of the forewing.

Stavsolus Ricker 1952. Russian *vstavat* = to rise, *solntse* = sun. A genus from the Land of the Rising Sun.

Strophopteryx

appalachia Ricker and Ross 1975. A species of the Appalachian region.

arkansas Ricker and Ross 1975. Most specimens came from Arkansas.

inaya Ricker and Ross 1975. Russian *inoi* (feminine *inaya*) = different.

ostra Ricker and Ross 1975. Russian *ostryi* = sharp, refers to the spine of the supracercal lobe.

Swallia Ricker 1943. The Suwallies or Scowallies are a clan of Salish Indians living near Chilliwack, British Columbia.

Sweltsa Ricker 1943. Sweltsa was the local Indian name for Cultus Lake, British Columbia; its outlet is still called Sweltzer Creek.

onkos Ricker 1935. Greek *onkos* = a hook; refers to the curved epiproct.

tamalpa Ricker 1952. The type locality, Mt. Tamalpais, is just north of the Golden Gate in California.

townesi Ricker 1952. Dr. Henry K. Townes collected the types.

urticae Ricker 1952. *urtica* = nettle. I ran into some while collecting this species.

Tadamus Ricker 1952. This name was certainly not made up *de novo*, but I can't remember its antecedent.

kohnois Ricker 1952. Dr. Mitsuko Kohno is a well-known Japanese plecopterist and saki manufacturer.

Taenionema

atlanticum Ricker and Ross 1975. Cognate with *pacificum*, a closely allied species.

Taeniopteryx

burksi Ricker and Ross 1968. For Dr. B. D. (Barney) Burke, formerly of the Illinois Natural History Survey, laterly of the U.S. National Museum.

- Lonicera* Ricker and Ross 1968. *Lonicera* is the generic name for honey-suckle, which grows abundantly throughout much of the range of this species.
- metequi* Ricker and Ross 1968. Metequi is an Algonquin word referring to the great eastern broadleaf forest (H. H. Ross).
- ugola* Ricker and Ross 1968. Russian ugol = coal. The species is known from the coal region of West Virginia and eastern Tennessee.
- Trianaka* Ricker 1952. Russian tri = three, znak = mark. Refers to the three black lines on the metethorax.
- pintada* Ricker 1952. Spanish pintado = colored, painted. I think that live male specimens often have the abdomen partly suffused with red, similarly to *Isoperla patricia*.
- Utaperla* Ricker 1952. The type was from Utah, which turns out to be the southern limit of the range of the genus.
- sopladora* Ricker 1952. Spanish soplador = puffer. The type locality is Puffer's Lake, Utah.
- Viehoperla* Ricker 1952 (vi-e-ho-per-la). Spanish viejo = old. Refers to the large epiproct, which is more primitive than the small type found in *Peltoperla* s.s.
- Visoka* Ricker 1952. Russian vysokii = high. Refers to the high elevations favoured by this species.
- Ioraperla* Ricker 1952. Spanish llorar = to weep, referring to the dripping skies that characterize the home of the type species.
- mariana* Ricker 1943. Again follows the female tradition for Peltoperlidae.
- Yugus* Ricker 1952. Russian yug = south. The species occur in the southern part of the Appalachian highlands.
- Zapada* Ricker 1952. Russian zapad = west. The genus occurs mainly in western North America.

ohila Ricker 1952. Spanish ohile = red pepper. I thought that this species was a red hot discovery, the first eastern species of the genus.

haysi Ricker 1952. Mr. R. A. Hays collected stoneflies very assiduously near Bozeman, Montana.

Zealeutro Ricker 1952. *Zea* is the generic name of maize. The range of *Zealeutro olauseni* coincides with a good deal of the "corn belt."

arnoldi Ricker and Ross 1969. Connie Arnold of San Marcos, Texas, helped to collect the types. The name should really have been *arnoldae*, but at the time of the description I had not heard her given name.

fraxina Ricker and Ross 1969. The type is from Ash Cave, Ohio; ash = *Fraxinus*.

hitei Ricker and Ross 1969. Otis and Maxine Hite of Arkansas State University have collected stoneflies extensively in their home state; however, the species *hitei* is from Texas.

narfi Ricker and Ross 1969. The type specimens were taken by R. P. Narf of the University of Wisconsin.

wachita Ricker and Ross 1969. The type is from the Ouachita River in Polk County, Arkansas.

warreni Ricker and Ross 1969. Dr. L. O. Warren of the University of Arkansas collected specimens of this and other species for the "Winter Stonefly Club."

Zhiltzovia Ricker and Ross 1975. Named for Dr. L. A. Zhiltzova, Russian plecopterist.

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