

## PROPOSALS TO CONSERVE OR REJECT

Edited by John McNeill, Scott A. Redhead & John H. Wiersema

### Report of the Committee for Fungi: 12

Walter Gams

*Centraalbureau voor Schimmelcultures, P. O. Box 85167, NL-3508 AD Utrecht, The Netherlands.  
gams@cbs.knaw.nl*

The previous report of the Committee was published in *Taxon* 53: 1067–1069 (2004). Since then, the Committee for Fungi has again undergone some changes and now consists of J. L. Crane (Urbana-Champaign, Illinois, U.S.A.), V. Demoulin (Liège, Belgium, chm.), W. Gams (Utrecht, Netherlands, secr.), P. M. Kirk (Egham, Surrey, U.K.), T. Iturriaga (Caracas, Venezuela), P. M. Jørgensen (Bergen, Norway), T. May (Melbourne, Victoria, Australia), L. Norvell (Portland, Oregon, U.S.A.), E. Parmasto (Tartu, Estonia), S. Redhead (Ottawa, Ontario, Canada), S. Ryman (Uppsala, Sweden), G. J. Samuels (Beltsville, Maryland, U.S.A.), H. J. Sipman (Berlin, Germany), and D. Triebel (München, Germany). Our member G. Redeuilh passed away and J. Melot (Reykjavik, Iceland) was co-opted in his place. E. Parmasto announced his resignation and so did P. M. Jørgensen for the period after Vienna. In their place, C. Printzen (Frankfurt/M., Germany) was voted into the Committee.

The present report relates to the outcome of a ballot concerning 16 proposals which was completed by 15 members. 14 of these proposals could be settled initially, 10 being recommended. With regard to the controversial proposals concerning *Coprinus*, a second round of discussion was held that helped to decide the issue. The votes are reported as Yes : No : More discussion : Abstain. Votes for More discussion are treated as abstentions unless the voter presented any further arguments. Nine votes for or against are required to make a recommendation on a proposal.

(1433) Conserve the name *Usnea hesperina* Motyka (proposed by Clerc in *Taxon* 48: 825–826. 1999). Votes: 1 : 13 : 0 : 1 (not recommended).

After the associated Prop. 1434 was reported as not recommended (*Taxon* 53: 1068. 2004), this proposal caused more problems because the name to be conserved is well established, but its neotypification is debatable. Moreover, the oldest name, *U. subgracilis* Vain., is still

acceptable for this species without being covered by the proposal. In this controversial group of lichenized fungi, many more nomenclatural changes are expected in more thorough monographs; therefore conservation is not opportune at the present stage.

(1461) Reject the generic name *Pyrenotrichum* Mont. (proposed by R. Lücking, K. Kalb, E. Sérusiaux & A. Vězda in *Taxon* 49: 558. 2000). Votes: 4 : 11 : 0 : 0 (not recommended).

After the associated Proposals 1462 and 1463 to reject *Chlorocyphella* and *Cyrta* were reported as not recommended (*Taxon* 53: 1068. 2004), the Committee for Fungi requested further input concerning 1461 from the proposers. The problem of the identity of the type, *Pyrenotrichum splitgerberi* Mont., is central and its generic classification would have had to be solved first. While this is impossible from the poor original material, which does not contain any apothecia, the proposers so far refused to designate an epitype that would have solved the problem. The proposers have admitted that they cannot exclude the possibility that *Pyrenotrichum* and *Chlorocyphella* are not congeneric with *Tapellaria*. Therefore, protecting *Calopadia* from threat by *Pyrenotrichum* and *Chlorocyphella* may be unnecessary, while another proposal to conserve *Tapellaria* might be necessary.

The next two proposals exemplify a repeatedly occurring situation, where authors, anticipating acceptance of a proposal, publish numerous new combinations in genera that would otherwise be incorrect, thus leaving little choice to the Committee for Fungi to make a well balanced decision. In this case all the (mostly) new combinations, among which 100 are in *Coprinopsis*, have been formally introduced by the proposers; in other cases (Props 1607 and 1654) the secretary himself has followed the same procedure, though with fewer combinations, a situation that can hardly be avoided in the future

because journal editors demand final conclusions about the classification of the taxa discussed. The need of segregating the small group around *Coprinus comatus* in *Agaricaceae* from three clades now accommodated in *Psathyrellaceae* is not contested, but a denser sampling of analysed taxa in the latter family might have been desirable to vindicate the three genera now distinguished. Whether the name of the well-known type of *Coprinus*, *C. comatus*, should be retained or would have to be changed into *Annularius* (combination not yet made) so that some 100 species could be retained in *Coprinus* with a new, conserved type, was the main issue. With the latter solution also the application of the family name *Coprinaceae* to the bulk of species involved would have been preserved.

(1474) Reject *Pselliophora* P. Karst. 1879 (proposed by S. A. Redhead, R. Vilgalys, J.-M. Moncalvo, J. Johnson & J. S. Hoppie, Jr. in *Taxon* 50: 275. 2001). Votes (a) as the proposal stands: 5 : 7 : 2 : 1; (b) alternatively conserve *Coprinopsis* P. Karst. 1881. Votes: 9 : 3 : 2 : 1, thus a slight majority for (b) which is recommended.

While acceptance of the associated Proposal 1473, to conserve the name *Psathyrella* with a conserved type, did not cause problems to the Committee for Fungi (*Taxon* 53: 1068. 2004), the views about this one and Prop. 1486 were initially strongly divided. Major arguments favouring 1474 are: the very well established type of a well-known genus should not be changed unless urgently needed; *Coprinopsis* has the same root as *Coprinus*, the genus to which species now assigned to *Pselliophora/Coprinopsis* formerly belonged; and the little known *Pselliophora* was so far the legitimate name for this group until the combinations in *Coprinopsis* were published by the proposers.

(1486) Conserve *Coprinus* Pers. with a conserved type (proposed by P. M. Jørgensen, S. Ryman, W. Gams & J. A. Stalpers in *Taxon* 50: 909. 2001). Votes: 6 : 7 : 1 : 1 (as alternative to Prop. 1474 not recommended).

Major argument against 1486 was that the original type, the publicly best known *Coprinus comatus*, *le coprin* in French and with similar names in other romance languages, should not be dissociated from its vernacular name. Arguments favouring 1486 are: enquiries by Committee members in *Inoculum* and *Mycophile* have given few clear votes for either solution and no very vivid protests against a generic name change for *C. comatus*, but several correspondents of *Mycologia Europaea* expressed their preference for retaining the name *C. comatus*. Other species of former *Coprinus* have even more numerous citations in *ISI's Web of Science* than *C. comatus*. But also for *C. cinereus* the generic

classification in *Coprinopsis* is gaining ground.

(1495) Conserve *Caldariomyces* Woron. against *Leptoxyphium* Speg. (proposed by D.R. Reynolds & J.L. Faull in *Taxon* 50: 1183–1184. 2001). Votes: 1 : 9 : 4 : 1 (not recommended).

*Caldariomyces fumago* is in general use for a chloroperoxidase-producing strain, while 13 species are generally recognized under the older generic name *Leptoxyphium*. No molecular data supporting the move were made available.

(1496) Conserve *Caldariomyces fumago* Woron. with a conserved type (proposed by D.R. Reynolds & J.L. Faull in *Taxon* 50: 1183–1184. 2001). Votes: 0 : 11 : 3 : 1 (not recommended).

A neotype or epitype needed to stabilize the application would not be threatened anyhow, and no conservation is needed.

(1536) Conserve *Fusicladium* Bonord. 1851 against *Spilocaea* Fr. 1819 (proposed by U. Braun, A. Ritschel & K. Schubert in *Taxon* 51: 557. 2002). Votes: 14 : 0 : 1 : 0 (recommended).

Molecular findings published after the proposal in 2003 have shown that several anamorph genera hitherto distinguished and associated with *Venturia* do not correspond with monophyletic subunits and cannot be upheld. Among these, *Fusicladium* is by far the most important and deserves protection over the older *Spilocaea*.

(1537) Conserve *Cantharellus lutescens* Fr. : Fr. with a conserved type (proposed by S. A. Redhead, L. L. Norvell, E. Danell & S. Ryman in *Taxon* 51: 559. 2002). Votes: 14 : 0 : 1 : 0 (recommended).

(1538) Conserve *Cantharellus tubaeformis* Fr. : Fr. with a conserved type (proposed by S. A. Redhead & al. in *Taxon* 51: 559. 2002). Votes: 14 : 0 : 1 : 0 (recommended).

Retaining these well-known epithets of *Cantharellus* species in the established sense is desirable, otherwise disturbing name changes would be required. The alternative of achieving the same effect without conservation was not regarded as sufficient.

(1539) Conserve *Chlorophyllum* Murrill over *Endoptychum* Czern. (proposed by E. C. Vellinga & R. P. J. de Kok in *Taxon* 51: 563. 2002). Votes: 11 : 1 : 2 : 1 (recommended).

Although some mycologists are not yet prepared to accept the proposed congeneric position of the brown-spored gasteroid *Endoptychum agaricinum* with the white- or green-spored agaricoid genus *Chlorophyllum*, the taxa now subsumed by Vellinga under *Chlorophyllum*

should certainly not go with *Endoptychum*. A series of publications by Vellinga have already anticipated the acceptance of this proposal.

(1557) Conserve *Cryptococcus gattii* (Vanbr. & Takashio) Kwon-Chung & Boekhout (proposed by K. J. Kwon-Chung, T. Boekhout, J. W. Fell & M. Diaz in Taxon 51: 804, 2002). Votes: 12 : 1 : 1 : 1 (recommended).

The fact that the binomial *C. gattii* to be conserved was only published in this proposal was a major stumbling block, while the competing *C. bacillisporus* is also of recent date, has received some recognition, and has an epithet identical with that of the associated teleomorph, *Filobasidiella bacillispora*. The massive support by the users of these names for retaining the familiar epithet *gattii* was decisive in accepting the proposal.

(1571) Conserve the family name *Tricholomataceae* R. Heim ex Pouzar also against *Hygrophoraceae* Lotsy and *Mycenaceae* Overeem (proposed by S. Redhead in Taxon 52: 135–136, 2003). Votes: 15 : 0 : 0 : 0 (recommended).

Extension of the already conserved name *Tricholomataceae* over two additional names did not cause any problem.

(1578) Reject *Lecidea atro-alba* var. *concreta* Ach. (proposed by A. M. Fryday & B. J. Coppins in Taxon 52: 351, 2003). Votes: 12 : 1 : 1 : 1 (recommended).

The proposal is unusual in dealing with an originally infraspecific epithet to be rejected. The well-established name *Rhizocarpon geminatum* deserves retention.

(1594) Conserve *Dothidea* Fr. : Fr. with a conserved type (proposed by R. A. Shoemaker, L. Holm & O. E. Eriksson in Taxon 52: 623, 2003). Votes: 15 : 0 : 0 : 0 (recommended).

A well-argued case, where conservation as proposed appears to be the best solution. Otherwise, according to the lectotypification by Theissen & Sydow (1915) with *D. moriformis*, all species of the genus would have to be transferred to *Systemma* Theissen & Syd.

(1595) Reject *Parmelia perlata* var. *olivaria* Ach. (proposed by D. L. Hawksworth, T. Ahti, O. Vitikainen & A. Crespo in Taxon 52: 626, 2003). Votes: 15 : 0 : 0 : 0 (recommended).

This proposal saves the name *Parmotrema pseudoreticulatum* (Tav.) Hale for a rare and endangered oceanic lichen, whereas the older name ‘*olivaria*’ was confused and hardly used.

(1607) Conserve *Plectosporium* M. E. Palm & al. against *Spermosporina* U. Braun (proposed by W. Gams,

M. E. Palm, W. M. Pitt & U. Braun in Taxon 53: 193, 2004). Votes: 14 : 0 : 0 : 1 (recommended).

The genus *Plectosporium* is of very recent date and *Spermosporina* is only two years older. The name *Plectosporium* has quickly become established for a very common soil fungus, while *Spermosporina* was initially vaguely described and has not been taken up frequently. Some recent publications have already anticipated acceptance of this proposal.