

BOOK REVIEW

Juan M. Nieto Nafria & Colin Favret (eds.). 2011. Registers of family-group and genus-group taxa of Aphidoidea (Hemiptera Sternorrhyncha). Universidad de León, 465 p. ISBN 978-84-9773-573-5

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Presented publication is the result of the decisions approved by the delegates attending the Seventh International Symposium on Aphids (Fremantle, Australia, October 2005), in order to gather and systemize the genus-group taxa names and to submit it as the proposal of the part of available names in Aphidoidea taxa of genus-group of the List of Available Names in Zoology. At the same symposium such a proposal was presented concerning family – group taxa, which was submitted to the International Commission on Zoological nomenclature in October 2007.

The register was prepared according to the particular articles of the Code of Zoological Nomenclature, which is strictly followed. And this is probably the most valuable feature of the register – each statement is supported by appropriate quote from the Code. Thus, there may be no doubts about the formal state of each of the Authors' decision. The exact explanation for the reasons of availability or unavailability of particular taxon name is also very important information due to the requirements of taxonomic research.

The register is divided into two parts: concerning family-group and genus-group names. In this way it's structure is transparent and may serve as a wieldy tool for taxonomists. Another vital element of the register is the table presenting the comparison of the two current classification systems of Aphidoidea. The table enables the correct reference of subjective data to the taxonomic hierarchy.

The appropriate attribution of authorship of the family-group taxa as well as the correct year of publishing, together with the list of most prolific authors will definitely facilitate the extend searches within the vast literature. Also the chronological list of described taxa gives an interesting view of the dynamics of taxonomic research through the centuries. Beside, this sort of catalogue definitely is going to facilitate work of numerous aphidologist not dealing directly with aphid taxonomy by giving the quick and reliable view of existing synonymies in the generic rank. Tables listing the number of valid genus-group taxa within the particular family-group taxa allow to acquaint the idea about the size of particular group.

The etymologies presented at the end of the register may seem to be a sort of curiosity, especially when we consider the connotation of some names (e.g. *Paracletus* which is Latinized term for Greek „paráklētos” which literally means „assistant of the advocate in court” but it is also the name of the Holy Spirit in Christian Bible). Yet, much more important is the etymology of name in relation to its grammatical gender, which is crucial for correctness of specific names under conditions of the Code.

Realizing the Authors' enormous effort to achieve such an usable source of data it is above any doubts that the presented register is going to be one of the basic tools for contemporary and future aphid researchers.