

## (229) Proposal to amend Article H.6.2 on the form of nothogeneric names

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### (229) Add a sentence at the end of Art. H.6.2; add an appositive reference to Art. H.6.2 under Art. 60 Note 3 (new text in bold):

“H.6.2. The nothogeneric name of a bigeneric hybrid is a condensed formula in which the names adopted for the parental genera are combined into a single word, using the first part or the whole of one, the last part or the whole of the other (but not the whole of both) and, optionally, a connecting vowel. **The use of a hyphen rather than a connecting vowel is treated as an error to be corrected by deletion of the hyphen.**”

[Art. 60] “Note 3. Art. 60.9 refers only to epithets (in combinations), not to names of genera or taxa in higher ranks; a generic name published with a hyphen can be changed only by conservation (Art. 14.11; see also Art. 20.3; **but see Art. H.6.2.**)”

The Editorial Committee may wish to add an Example under Art. H.6.2, such as:

“*Ex. n.* The nothogeneric name *×Anthematricaria* Asch. (in Ber. Deutsch. Bot. Ges. 9: (99). 1892), proposed for hybrids with the parentage *Anthemis* L.  $\times$  *Matricaria* L., was originally published as *×Anthe-Matricaria*.”

Before there were rules on the formation of nothogeneric names, use of a hyphen in otherwise correctly formed such names was not

uncommon. Names so published are generally deemed to be acceptable. They are not. Under Art. H.6.2, nothogeneric names must consist of “a single word”, no hyphen being permitted. Under Art. 32.1(c), names not in accordance with that rule are not validly published. Currently, one is bound to scan the world’s literature (not indexed for that purpose) to find the first author who used an originally hyphenated nothogeneric name without a hyphen, thus probably though inadvertently validating it; or if none can be found, a later nothogeneric name may have to be accepted, or a new one coined. Also, no binomial published prior to the date of valid publication of the nothogeneric name can be validly published under it (Art. 35.1), which would inevitably affect currently accepted species nomenclature, too.

The purpose of the foregoing proposal is to remedy this unfortunate situation. There are two ways to achieve this: the one proposed here or, alternatively, to add “or a hyphen” after “a connecting vowel”, at the end of Art. H.6.2. The effect on validity would be the same, but under the second option the offending hyphen would be maintained rather than deleted. As, generally speaking, I consider hyphens in generic names a nuisance I have given preference to the first option, but would be happy to embrace the second alternative, should the Nomenclature Section so wish.