

INTERNATIONAL BRYOLOGICAL NOMENCLATURE.

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THE following is the substance of a letter sent to the members of the International Special Committee for Nomenclature (Musci). Replies were received from all of the seven members.

I.

With regard to the selection of Standard Species (Lectotypes) for the Nomina Generica Conservanda of Mosses adopted by the Cambridge and Amsterdam Conferences. A list was given of the proposed species, nearly all of which were agreed to unanimously. One member would have preferred *Ditrichum pusillum* (Hedw.) as the standard species, in the place of *D. homomallum* (Hedw.).

It was at first suggested that *Myurium rufescens* Fleisch. would be a more satisfactory type of the genus, being based on a perfect, fruiting plant, while *M. hebridarum* was described from a sterile plant; but this is rendered impracticable by the Rules, as *M. hebridarum* was the only species described under the genus at the time of publication.

II.

It is further suggested that *Gymnostomum aestivum* Hedw. be placed on the list of Nomina Dubia, as there is some doubt whether it is identical with *Anoetangium compactum* Schwaegr. (for one thing, *G. aestivum* was based upon a *paludal* moss). If this is agreed to, the name for the type-species will be *Anoetangium compactum* Schwaegr. (Suppl. I. pt. i. p. 36, t. 11, 1811).

III.

The widespread and familiar plant (*a*) known variously as *Hypnum myosuroides* L., *Isothecium myosuroides* Brid., *Eurhynchium myosuroides* Schimp., has been shifted from one genus to another, but has always retained the specific epithet *myosuroides*.

Unfortunately, Hedwig (who omits this species) has in the Sp. Musc. applied the epithet to another, but allied species (*b*), the plant usually known as *Isothecium myurum* Brid. (*Hypnum myosuroides* var. β L. Sp. pl.), but it has been used scarcely, if at all, by any author, for that species, since 1801; while the epithet *myosuroides* has been applied to the first-named species (*a*) by every author, without exception, since at least 1801.

This appears to justify the application of Art. 62 of the International Rules, viz., "A name of a taxonomic group must be rejected if, owing to its use with different meanings, it becomes a permanent source of confusion or error." The transference of the epithet *myosuroides* from species (*a*), for which it has been universally employed, to species (*b*), for which it has been

practically never used, would lead to endless confusion, besides necessitating a new specific epithet for the former. It is proposed, therefore, to place the name *Hypnum myosuroides* Hedw. Sp. Musc. on the list of Nomina Ambigua. The species (b) then, to which Hedwig applied the name, will continue to be known as *Isothecium myurum* Brid., Bry. univ. ii. 367 (1827) (*Hypnum myurum* Brid., Musc. rec. II. pt. ii. 166 (1801); while species (a) will be known as *Isothecium myosuroides* Brid. op. cit. (1827), p. 369 (*Hypnum myosuroides* Brid. op. cit. (1801), p. 168). This assumes that both species are retained in *Isothecium*, which seems to be the generally accepted modern arrangement; but the specific epithets will remain the same in any arrangement. Grout in the 'North American Moss Flora' has cut the Gordian knot by creating for species (a) the new genus *Pseudisothecium*; but even if this course is generally adopted, which is doubtful, Hedwig's epithet *myosuroides* would still have to be applied to species (b) instead of its almost universally known name of *I. myurum*. In any case, therefore, it appears to me desirable to place Hedwig's name in the list of Nomina Ambigua.

This was agreed to unanimously.

The following proposals will therefore be made at the Stockholm Conference :—

I.

That the name *Gymnostomum aestivum* Hedw. Sp. Musc. p. 32, be placed on the list of Nomina Dubia.

II.

That the name *Hypnum myosuroides* Hedw. Sp. Musc. p. 266, be placed on the list of Nomina Ambigua.

III.

That the following be the Lectotypes (Standard Species) for the Nomina Generica Conservanda adopted at the Cambridge and Amsterdam Conferences :—

ACIDODONTIUM Schwaegr.	<i>A. megalocarpum</i> (Hook.) Ren. & Card. Syn. <i>A. Kunthii</i> Schwaegr.
ALOINA Kindb.	<i>A. aloides</i> Kindb., Laubm. Schwed. u. Norw. p. 136 (1883).
AMPHIDIUM Schimp.	<i>A. lapponicum</i> Schimp. Bry. eur., Coroll. 39 (1856).
ANACOLIA Schimp.	<i>A. Webbia</i> Schimp. Syn. ed. ii. p. 513 (1876).
ANOECTANGIUM Schwaegr.	<i>A. compactum</i> Schwaegr. Suppl. i. pt. i. p. 36, t. 11 (1811). Syn. <i>A. aestivum</i> (Hedw.) Bry. eur. fasc. 29-30, t. 37 (1846) ?
ATRACTYLOCARPUS Mitt.	<i>A. mexicanus</i> Mitt. in Journ. Linn. Soc., Bot. xii. 71 (1869).

- ATRICHUM P. Beauv. *A. undulatum* (Hedw.) P. Beauv. Prodr. 42 (1805).
 AULACOMNIUM Schwaegr. *A. androgynum* (Hedw.) Schwaegr. Suppl. iii. part 1, Mon. p. 2, n. 1 (1827).
 BARTRAMIDULA Bry. eur. *B. Wilsoni* Bry. eur. fasc. 29-30, t. 327 (1846).
 CROSSIDIUM Jur. *C. squamigerum* (Viv.) Jur. Laubm. v. Oesterr.-Ung. p. 127 (1882).
 CYNODONTIUM Schimp. *C. polycarpum* (Hedw.) Schimp., Bry. eur., Coroll. p. 12 (1855).
 DISTICHIMUM Bry. eur. *D. capillaceum* (Hedw.) Bry. eur. fasc. 29-30, t. 193 (1846).
 DITRICHUM Hampe *D. homomallum* (Hedw.) Hampe in Flora, l. 182 (1867).
 DRUMMONDIA Hook. *D. prorepens* (Hedw.) Jennings, Mosses of W. Penns. p. 116 (1913). Syn. *D. clavellata* Hook.
 EPHEMERELLA C. M. *E. recurvifolia* (Dicks.) Schimp. Syn. 1, p. 7 (1860). Syn. *E. pachycarpa* C. M. Syn. i. 34 (1848).
 GYMNOSTOMUM Smith *G. calcareum* Bry. germ. i. 153, t. 10 (1823).
 GYROWEISIA Schimp. *G. tenuis* Schimp. Syn. ed. ii. p. 38 (1876).
 HAPLOHYMENIUM Doz. & Molk. *H. triste* (Ces.) Kindb. in Rev. Bryol. xxvi. 25 (1899).
 HOOKERIA Sm. *H. lucens* Sm. in Trans. Linn. Soc. ix. 275 (1808).
 HYGROAMBLYSTEGIUM Loeske *H. tenax* (Hedw.) Jennings, Mosses of W. Penns. p. 227 (1913). Syn. *H. irriguum* (Wils.) Loeske, Moosfl. d. Harz. p. 299 (1903).
 HYPNUM Hedw. *H. cupressiforme* Hedw. Sp. M. p. 291 (1801).
 LEPIDOPILUM Brid. *L. polytrichoides* (Hedw.) Brid. Bryol. univ. 11, 269 (1827).
 LEPTOSTOMUM R. Br. *L. macrocarpum* (Hedw.) R. Br. in Trans. Linn. Soc. x. 322 (1811).
 LEPTODON Mohr. *L. Smithii* Mohr. Observ. p. 27 (1803).
 LEUCOLOMA Brid. *L. bifidum* Brid. Bryol. Univ. 11, 218 (1827).
 MITTENOTHAMNIUM Hennings *M. reptans* (Hedw.) Card. in Rev. Bryol. xl. 21 (1913).
 NECKERA Hedw. *N. pennata* Hedw. Sp. M. p. 200 (1801).
 PAPILLARIA C. M. *P. nigrescens* (Hedw.) Jaeg. Adumbr. p. 169 (1874-5).
 PLATYGYRIUM Bry. eur. *P. repens* (Brid.) Bry. eur., fasc. 46-67, t. 458 (1851).
 PTERYGONEURUM Jur. *P. ovatum* (Hedw.) Dix. in Rev. Bryol. n.s. vi. 96 (1933). Syn. *P. cavifolium* (Ehrh.) Jur., Laubmfl. Oesterr.-Ung. p. 95 (1882).
 PTYCHOMITRIUM Fürnr. *P. polyphyllum* (Sw.) Fürnr. in Flora, xii. Erg. 2, 19 (1829).
 TORTELLA Limpr. *T. humilis* (Hedw.) Jennings, Mosses of W. Penns. p. 95 (1913). Syn. *T. caespitosa* (Schwaegr.) Limpr.
 TRICHOSTOMUM Hedw. emend. Bruch. *T. brachydontium* Bruch in Flora, xii. 393 (1829), fig. iii.