

PROPOSALS TO AMEND THE CODE

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(031) A proposal to standardize the typography of citations

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Author citations, if they consist of initials, parentheses and shortened surnames, can be typed in many ways in respect of spacing and punctuation. It is observed that various botanical writers apply their own rules, which may be subconsciously adopted from national spelling rules. The typography of citations should be made uniform in order to facilitate querying of taxonomic databases online.

The *Melbourne Code* (McNeill & al. in *Regnum Veg.* 154. 2012) already contains some detailed typographical provisions relating to names of the taxa (misspellings: Rec. 50F; cultivars: Art. 28 Note 4 and Ex. 1; hybrids: Rec. H.3A) and to author citations (usage of &/et: Rec. 46C; sanctioning: Rec. 50E.3).

The existing inconsistency can be easily proved: the *Code* itself uses standard abbreviations for author citations in conformity with Brummitt & Powell's *Authors of plant names* (1992) by virtue of Rec. 46A.4 and Note 1. However, databases cited in this Note (the International Plant Names Index or IPNI: <http://www.ipni.org>; and Index Fungorum: <http://www.indexfungorum.org>) do not seem to follow the typographical style of the *Code*. Examples: the *Code* writes "C. C. Gmel." (Rec. 46A.3) and "A. C. Sm." (Art. 49 Ex. 9), whereas IPNI

uses "C.C.Gmel." and "A.C.Sm.", i.e., without any spaces. A fungal taxon typed in the *Code* (Art. 29 Ex. 1) as "*Piromyces polycephalus* Y. C. Chen & al." is typed in Index Fungorum as "*Piromyces polycephalus* Y.C. Chen, C.Y. Chien & R.S. Hseu", i.e., with a space after the initials but not between them. Another style, in which an author's initials are united without full stops (periods), i.e., "CC Gmel." or "AC Sm.", should be also avoided.

(031) Add a new paragraph and a new Example to Recommendation 46A:

"46A.5. Author citations should be typed (as in this *Code*) in accordance with the following recommendations: a closing parenthesis and each full stop should be followed by a space. Full stops should not be omitted (except for well-established abbreviations, e.g. "DC." for Augustin Pyramus de Candolle). The plant name should not be followed by a comma."

"Ex. 5. *Epifagus virginiana* (L.) W. P. C. Barton (not "(L.) W.P.C. Barton", nor "(L.) W.P.C.Barton", nor "(L.)W.P.C. Barton", nor "(L.) WPC. Barton")."