

Nomenclatural notes, 4¹.
Melania scalaris Philippi, 1836,
and *Odostomia scalaris* Macgillivray, 1843

J. J. VAN AARTSEN

Adm. Helfrichlaan 33, NL 6952 GB Dieren, The Netherlands

Melania scalaris Philippi, 1836, not Spix in Wagner, 1827, should be *Turbonilla* (*Pyrgiscus*) *jeffreysii* (Jeffreys, 1848). *Odostomia scalaris* Macgillivray, 1843, should be used instead of the nearly forgotten name *O. nitida* Alder, May 1844, which has some months priority over *O. rissoides* Hanley, July 1844. Jeffreys (1848) had considered *O. scalaris* Macgillivray, 1843, a junior secondary homonym of *Melania scalaris* Philippi, 1836, which latter he transferred to *Odostomia*. Iredale (1915) advocated return to Macgillivray's name now that Philippi's species was no longer considered to belong to *Odostomia*. This is reinforced by the fact that Macgillivray's name frequently occurs in non-systematic literature.

Key words: Gastropoda, Prosobranchia, Thiariidae/Melaniidae, Opisthobranchia, Pyramidellidae. *Odostomia*, Atlantic, Mediterranean.

The species *Melania scalaris*, described by Philippi (1836: 157) was soon recognized not to belong to this genus, but to be a member of the Pyramidellidae. The species was placed in the new genus *Pyrgiscus* by Philippi himself (1841: 50) whereas later on (1844: 137) he placed it in *Chemnitzia* d'Orbigny, 1840. It should be noted here, that Philippi as well as many other authors used *Chemnitzia* as equivalent to the earlier *Turbonilla* Risso, 1826. Lowe (1841: 42) placed the species in his genus *Parthenia* Lowe, 1841, whereas Aradas & Maggiore (1844: 117) included it in their new genus *Ortostelis*.

The species *Odostomia scalaris* published by Macgillivray (1843: 154) is quite different and has always been regarded as a member of *Odostomia* Fleming, 1813. Two synonyms are *Odostomia nitida* Alder, 1844 (May) and *Odostomia rissoides* Hanley, 1844 (July).

Jeffreys (1848) in his well-known article included all European pyramidellid species under one genus, viz. *Odostomia*. As a consequence *Odostomia scalaris* Mglvr., 1843 became a junior secondary homonym of *Odostomia scalaris* (Philippi, 1836); *O. rissoides* was, erroneously, used as its substitute. Although Forbes & Hanley (1850: 251) did not follow this view and cited *Chemnitzia scalaris* (Philippi, 1836) they used the name *O. rissoides* for the other species.

In this century, Iredale (1915: 337) was the first to advocate the use of the name *O. scalaris* Mglvr. again, now that Philippi's species was no longer regarded to belong to *Odostomia*. This view was followed by most modern writers, from Winckworth (1932: 226) to Turk (1973: 36). Only Nordsieck (1972: 110, spec. 1.610) cites "*Odostomia* (*Brachystomia*) *rissoides* Hanley, 1844 = *scalaris* Macgillivray, 1843 non Philippi, 1836".

In view of the stability of nomenclature we propose that the well-known name *Odostomia scalaris* Macgillivray, 1843, be used for the species under discussion and not

¹ 3: On the genera *Ichnusa* (Clark, MSS) Jeffreys, 1847, and *Ishnula* (Clarke, MSS) Gray, 1847. — *Basteria* 51: 147-148, 1987.

the nearly forgotten name *Odostomia nitida* Alder, May 1844, which has some months priority over *O. rissoides* Hanley, July 1844. *O. scalaris* is a well-known species, frequently cited also in non-systematical literature because of its special way of parasitic life. The name should be rejected because of ICZN Art. 59 (b), i.e. because it has been replaced once before 1961 as a junior secondary homonym; because the use of a replacement name would result in confusion the case will be referred to the Commission for a ruling, relying on Art. 59 (b)(i).

As *Melania scalaris* Philippi, 1836, is preoccupied by *Melania scalaris* Spix in Wagner, 1827, the correct name for Philippi's species becomes *Turbonilla (Pyrgiscus) jeffreysii* (Jeffreys, 1848), not Forbes & Hanley as sometimes cited.

REFERENCES

- ALDER, J., 1844 (May). Descriptions of some new British species of Rissoa and Odostomia. — Ann. Mag. nat. Hist. (1) 13: 323-328.
- ARADAS, A., & G. MAGGIORE, 1844. Catalogo ragionato delle conchiglie viventi e fossili di Sicilia. — Atti Accad. gioenia Sci. nat. 20: 101-142.
- FORBES, E., & S. HANLEY, 1850. History of British Mollusca and their shells 3: 1-320. London.
- HANLEY, E., 1844 (July). "A description of new species of recent shells", chiefly from the collection of W. Metcalfe, Esq. — Proc. zool. Soc. Lond. 1844: 17-18.
- IREDALE, T., 1915. Notes on names of some British marine Mollusca. — Proc. mal. Soc. Lond. 11: 329-342.
- JEFFREYS, J.G., 1848. On the recent species of Odostomia, a genus of gasteropodous mollusks inhabiting the seas of Great Britain and Ireland. — Ann. Mag. nat. Hist. (2) 2: 330-351.
- LOWE, R.T., 1841. On Parthenia, a new genus of Recent marine shells or mollusks, containing British species. — Proc. zool. Soc. Lond. 1840: 39-42.
- MACGILLIVRAY, W., 1843. A history of the molluscous animals of the counties of Aberdeen, Kincardine, and Banff: I-XXIV, 1-372. London.
- NORDSIECK, F., 1972. Die europäischen Meeresschnecken (Opisthobranchia mit Pyramidellidae; Rissoacea). Vom Eismeer bis Kapverden, Mittelmeer und Schwarzes Meer: I-XIII, 1-372. Stuttgart.
- PHILIPPI, R.A., 1836. Enumeratio molluscorum Siciliae 1: 1-XIV, 1-268. Berlin.
- , 1841. Zoologische Bemerkungen. — Arch. Naturgesch. 7: 42-59.
- , 1844. Enumeratio molluscorum Siciliae 2: I-IV, 1-303. Halle/Saale.
- TURK, S.M., 1973. Concordance to the fieldcard for British marine Mollusca: 1-66. Buttingford.
- WINCKWORTH, R., 1932. The British marine Mollusca. — J. Conch. Lond. 19: 211-252.