

## Case 2866

### MEGALODONTIDAE Morris & Lycett, 1853 (Mollusca, Bivalvia) and MEGALODONTIDAE Konow, 1897 (Insecta, Hymenoptera): proposed removal of homonymy

Neil D. Springate

Muséum d'Histoire Naturelle, Case postale 6434, CH-1211 Genève 6,  
Switzerland

**Abstract.** The purpose of this application is to remove the homonymy between two family names of Hymenoptera and fossil Bivalvia. It is proposed that the complete name of the sawfly genus *Megalodontes* Latreille, 1802 be adopted as the stem of the corresponding family-group names, giving MEGALODONTESIDAE Konow, 1897. The mollusc name MEGALODONTIDAE Morris & Lycett, 1853 would remain unchanged.

1. Morris & Lycett (1853, p. 78) proposed the family-group name Megalonidae for three genera of fossil bivalve molluscs, based on the Triassic genus *Megalodon* Sowerby, 1827 (p. 131), type species *M. cucullatus* Sowerby, 1827 (p. 132). The family name was corrected by Zittel (1881, p. 69) to MEGALODONTIDAE, and has been used at superfamily rank as MEGALODONTACEA. Under Article 33b of the Code, Morris & Lycett (1853) are the authors of the name MEGALODONTIDAE.

2. Konow (1897, p. 1) proposed the family-group name Megalodontides, based on the genus of extant Symphyta (Insecta, Hymenoptera) *Megalodontes* Latreille, 1802 (p. 302), type species by monotypy *Tenthredo cephalotes* Fabricius, 1781 (p. 408). Ashmead (1898, p. 207) corrected the suffix to form MEGALODONTINAE and MacGillivray (1906, p. 644) raised it to family rank as MEGALODONTIDAE.

3. Both the family names MEGALODONTIDAE Morris & Lycett, 1853 (Mollusca) and MEGALODONTIDAE Konow, 1897 (Insecta) are correctly formed and are in general use. To base a new family-group name on another genus included within MEGALODONTIDAE Konow, 1897 would cause immeasurable confusion. To remove the homonymy it is therefore proposed that the full generic name of the genus *Megalodontes* Latreille, 1802 is used as the stem, so that hymenopteran family-group names based on it would become MEGALODONTESIDAE (or MEGALODONTESINAE, as the case may be). In accordance with Article 55b of the Code this case is referred to the Commission.

4. The International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature is accordingly asked:

- (1) to use its plenary powers to rule that for the purposes of Article 29 the stem of the generic name *Megalodontes* Latreille, 1802 is MEGALODONTES-;
- (2) to place the following names on the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology:
  - (a) *Megalodontes* Latreille, 1802 (gender: masculine), type species by monotypy *Tenthredo cephalotes* Fabricius, 1781;
  - (b) *Megalodon* Sowerby, 1827 (gender: masculine), type species by monotypy *Megalodon cucullatus* Sowerby, 1827;

- (3) to place the following names on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology:
  - (a) *cephalotes* Fabricius, 1781, as published in the binomen *Tenthredo cephalotes* (specific name of the type species of *Megalodontes* Latreille, 1802);
  - (b) *cucullatus* Sowerby, 1827, as published in the binomen *Megalodon cucullatus* (specific name of the type species of *Megalodon* Sowerby, 1827);
- (4) to place the following names on the Official List of Family-Group Names in Zoology:
  - (a) MEGALODONTESIDAE Konow, 1897, type genus *Megalodontes* Latreille, 1802 (spelling emended by the ruling in (1) above) (Insecta, Hymenoptera);
  - (b) MEGALONDONTIDAE Morris & Lycett, 1853, type genus *Megalodon* Sowerby, 1827 (Mollusca, Bivalvia);
- (5) to place on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Family-Group Names in Zoology the name MEGALONDONTIDAE Konow, 1897 (spelling emended to MEGALODONTESIDAE in (1) above).

### Acknowledgements

The assistance of Barry Bolton and Noel Morris (respectively of the Departments of Entomology and Palaeontology, The Natural History Museum, London) with the derivation of Greek nomenclature and the tracing of family-group names in fossil Bivalvia respectively is acknowledged gratefully. This paper is part of a Ph.D. study supervised by Daniel Burckhardt and Willy Matthey, supported by the Université de Neuchâtel and funded by the Fonds national suisse de la recherche scientifique (project no. 31-30864.91).

### References

- Ashmead, W.H. 1898. Classification of the horntails and sawflies, or the sub-order Phytophaga. *The Canadian Entomologist*, 30: 205–213.
- Fabricius, J.C. 1781. *Species Insectorum* ..., vol. 1. 552 pp. Hamburg & Kilonii.
- Konow, F.W. 1897. Systematische und kritische Bearbeitung der Blattwespen-Tribus Lydini. *Annalen des Königlichen-Kaiserlichen Naturhistorischen Hofmuseums*, (Wien), 12: 1–32.
- Latreille, P.A. [1802]. *Histoire naturelle, générale et particulière des crustacés et des insectes*, vol. 3. 468 pp. Dufart, Paris.
- MacGillivray, A. de C. 1906. A study of the wings of the Tenthredinoidea, a superfamily of the Hymenoptera. *Proceedings of the United States National Museum*, 29: 569–654.
- Morris, J. & Lycett, J. 1853. *A monograph of the Mollusca from the Great Oolite, chiefly from Minchinhampton and the coast of Yorkshire*, part 2 (bivalves). 80 pp. Palaeontographical Society, London.
- Sowerby, J. de C. 1827. *The mineral conchology of Great Britain*, part 97 (vol. 6, pp. 121–131). Meredith, London.
- Zittel, K.A. 1881. *Handbuch der Palaeontologie*, Abtheilung 1 (Palaeozoologie), Band 2 (Mollusca und Arthropoda). 893 pp. Oldenburg, Munich & Leipzig.