



A generic homonym concerning chordeumatid millipedes (Arthropoda: Diplopoda) and ophellid worms (Annelida: Polychaeta)

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The Diplopoda is a megadiverse group, comprising > 12,000 nominal species with an estimate of total global diversity as high as 80,000 (Adis & Harvey 2000; Hoffman 1980; Sierwald & Bond 2007). An electronic, searchable database of the Diplopoda is currently being compiled at the Field Museum of Natural History in Chicago, IL. This catalog, and others like it, provides the basis and quality assurance for future taxonomic works and larger initiatives like the Encyclopedia of Life (EOL). The catalog will contain the most up-to-date and researched account of millipede diversity and literature records ever compiled and will be made accessible online.

While preparing the aforementioned catalog of the Diplopoda, a hitherto unrecognized generic homonym has been discovered involving the monotypic fossil millipede genus *Euzonus* Menge, 1854, currently tentatively placed in the family Craspedosomatidae (Arthropoda: Myriapoda: Diplopoda: Chordeumatida) and the marine worm genus *Euzonus* Grube, 1866 (Annelida: Polychaeta: Ophellidae). The junior homonym, *Euzonus* Grube, 1866, is being used for a group of 15 species as their presumed valid genus name. According to the ICZN (article 23.9) a junior homonym can take precedence over the senior homonym only if two conditions (23.9.1.1 and 23.9.1.2) are met, which is not the case here as ICZN 23.9.1.1. is not met. While *Euzonus* Grube, 1866 (Polychaeta) was used by more than 10 authors in over 25 works published in the past 50 years (ICZN 23.9.1.2.), the generic name *Euzonus* Menge, 1854 (Diplopoda) was used after 1899 (ICZN 23.9.1.1.) at least once as a valid name by Hoffman (1969: R595) and thus maintains its priority over *Euzonus* Grube, 1866. Adherence to the ICZN is essential for nomenclatorial stability; therefore, the generic placement of the 15 polychaete species currently assigned to *Euzonus* Grube, 1866 must be resolved in accordance with the ICZN. Since we are not polychaete specialists, we refer the matter to the polychaete research community and offer our collaboration and assistance. The genus name *Pectinophelia* Hartman, 1938 was unambiguously synonymized with *Euzonus* Grube, 1866 by Hartman (1959: 434) and is the most senior synonym of the polychaete genus *Euzonus*. We suggest this available generic name as a (temporary) taxonomic home for the polychaete species of this group.

Senior homonym (Diplopoda) and its type species

Class Diplopoda

Order Chordeumatida

Family Craspedosomatidae

Euzonus Menge, 1854

Euzonus Menge, 1854: 14. Type species: *Euzonius collulum*, Oligocene, Europe (Prussian/Baltic Amber), by monotypy

Euzonus—Menge, 1856: 6

Euzonus—Bronn, 1853–56: 623, placed in family Julidae, description (German)

Euzonus—Scudder, 1885: 731. Short description (German), placed in Lysiopeltidae [err. pro Lysiopetalidae = Callipodidae]

Euzonus—Scudder, 1891: 239

Euzonus—Neave, 1939: 384