



Corrections for grammatical agreement in Ophiidermatidae

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Ophiidermatidae Ljungman, 1867 contains eleven genera, with 131 species. Five of these genera were identified as being misgendered according to the International Code of Zoological Nomenclature (ICZN 1999) Article 30, and eight species names which agreed with the gender of the genus must be corrected. As well, four species in *Stereoderma* must also be corrected.

Ophiopsammus Lütken, 1869 contains six species. *Ophiopsammus* has been treated as feminine, as ψάμμος in Ancient Greek is normally (but not always) considered feminine. However, ψάμμος was transliterated into Latin with a changed ending, *-us*, and under ICZN article 30.1.3, it should take the gender normally associated with this ending in Latin, which is masculine. Adjectival species names must be changed to agree with the gender of the genus, according to Article 31. The species to be changed are *O. anchista* to *O. anchistus*, *O. angusta* to *O. angustus* and *O. maculata* to *O. maculatus*.

Diopederma H.L. Clark, 1913 ends in a neuter Greek noun. The species *D. daniana* ends in the Latin ending *-ana*, which can be used to create a word that is either a noun or an adjective. The usage is not clear in *daniana*, and so it must be considered a noun in apposition, under Article 31.2.2. No change is suggested. The overcorrection *danianum* is used in some places in the literature (e.g. Solís-Marín *et al.* 2005), but not on WoRMS (WoRMS Editorial Board 2024).

Ophiocypris Koehler, 1930 ends in the feminine Latin word *Cypris*, another name for the goddess Venus. As a result, *O. tuberculosus* should be *O. tuberculosa*.

Ophiomidas Koehler, 1904 ends in *Midas*, which is the masculine name for the rich king in both Latin and Greek. Two species names must be changed to agree: *O. alatum* becomes *alatus*, and *O. reductum* becomes *reductus*. *O. aurum* does not change, as it is a noun in apposition.

Ophiochasma Grube, 1866 ends in the neuter Latin noun *chasma*, and is not feminine. *O. nitida* becomes *O. nitidum*, and *O. stellata* becomes *stellatum*.

All genera within Echinodermata on Wikidata.org were checked, looking for other generic names that ended in the same words as the five genera checked. One further genus was found which needed correction.

Stereoderma Ayres, 1851 also ends in the neuter Greek noun *derma*. *S. colochiriformis* should be changed to *S. colochiriforme*, *S. imbricata* to *S. imbricatum*, *S. incerta* to *S. incertum*, and *S. perexigua* to *S. perexiguum*.

References

- International Trust for Zoological Nomenclature (1999) *International Code of Zoological Nomenclature*. International Trust for Zoological Nomenclature, London, 4th edition. Available from: <http://www.iczn.org> (accessed 2024-11-13)
- Solís-Marín, F. A., Laguarda-Figueras, A., Durán-González, A., Ahearn, C. G. & Vega, J. T. (2005) Equinodermos (Echinodermata) del Golfo de California, México. *Revista de Biología Tropical*, 53(3), 123-137.
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