



## Replacement name for the homonymous genus *Ctenophlebia* Hong, 2009, not Stål, 1873 (Insecta: Mecoptera)

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About 150 years ago, Stål (1873) validly proposed the name *Ctenophlebia* Stål, 1873 for an extant genus of South American katydids (Orthoptera: Tettigoniidae), based on the type species (by original designation and monotypy) *Gryllus* (*Tettigonia*) *myrtifolius* Linnaeus, 1758 (≡ *Locusta myrtifolia* (L.) auct.; ≡ *Phylloptera myrtifolia* (L.) auct.; ≡ *Ctenophlebia myrtifolia* (L.) auct.; ≡ *Viadana myrtifolius* (L.) auct.). Kirby (1906, 471) placed *Gryllus myrtifolius* in the genus *Viadana* Walker, 1869 (as a senior synonym of *Viadana transversa* Walker, 1869, the type species of *Viadana*), thus making *Ctenophlebia* Stål a junior synonym of *Viadana*, and the genus *Ctenophlebia* Stål became obscured by invalidity.

Gorochov & Cadena-Castañeda (2015) recognized that *Gryllus myrtifolius* and *Viadana transversa* are in fact distinct species and resurrected *Ctenophlebia* from synonymy, placing *Ctenophlebia* Stål in the Microcentrini Brunner von Wattenwyl, 1878 and *Viadana* in the Phaneropterini Burmeister, 1838.

While *Ctenophlebia* Stål was obscured in synonymy, the palaeoentomologist Prof. Hong You-Chong discovered specimens of some extinct genera of Chinese mecopterans and named one *Ctenophlebia* Hong, 2009, typified (by original designation and monotypy) by the species *Ctenophlebia tongchuanensis* Hong, 2009 (Mecoptera: Neorthophlebiidae) (Hong 2009). The name of Hong's genus, explicitly formed from the Greek roots *cten-* / χτέν- (comb) and *phleb-* / φλεβ- (vein), helpfully embodies the principle diagnostic feature of the genus: it has pectinate radial and median veins, while its putative relatives all have dichotomising veins (Hong 2009). This nomenclatural action inadvertently created a junior homonym in terms of the International Code of Zoological Nomenclature (ICZN) (International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature 1999: Article 56). It is understandable that this homonym arose: Chinese mecopteran palaeontology and Neotropical orthopteran neontology have little common literature, and comprehensive, internet-accessible nomenclatural databases were still in development in 2009, so detecting this particular homonym was unlikely at the time.

Article 60 of the current ICZN provides that a valid new name must be proposed for a junior homonym (International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature 1999). Ideally, the original author should have opportunity to rename their taxon, but unfortunately, Prof. Hong You-Chong died in 2019 (Huang *et al.* 2019) without proposing a replacement name himself. No junior synonym of *Ctenophlebia* Hong is available to become its replacement name under Article 60.2 of the ICZN (International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature 1999), and no new name is listed on the Paleobiology (Uhen *et al.* 2023a; b), EDNA fossil insect (Mitchell 2013), Catalogue of Life (Bánki *et al.* 2024), Encyclopedia of Life (Anonymous 2024; Parr *et al.* 2014), Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF.org 2024), Interim Register of Marine and Nonmarine Genera (Rees 2023) or Index to Organism Names (Clarivate Analytics 2009) on-line databases. A replacement name is therefore proposed here (International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature 1999: Article 60.3). Prof. Hong is already commemorated in *Hongius* Özdikmen, 2008, a replacement name for the extinct dictyoneurid genus *Palaeoneura* Hong, 1985 (Insecta: Palaeodictyoptera). Instead, Prof. Hong's informative genus name is modified to *Ctenobittacus* Villet **nom. nov.** to conserve its diagnostic nature and come into line with the form of other generic names in the Neorthophlebiinae (Bittacidae) to which *Ctenophlebia* Hong belongs. The genus is still monotypic, so its only species remains its type species. The following nomenclatural acts are formally proposed.

**Phylum ARTHORPODA Latreille, 1829**

**Clade HEXAPODA Blainville, 1816**

**Class INSECTA Linnaeus, 1758**

**Order MECOPTERA Hyatt & Arms, 1890**

## Family BITTACIDAE Handlirsch, 1906

### Subfamily NEORTHOPHLEBIINAE Handlirsch, 1920

#### Genus *Ctenobittacus* Villet, new replacement name

≡ *Ctenophlebia* Hong, 2009: 425, not Stål, 1873 (type species: *Ctenophlebia tongchuanensis* Hong, 2009 by original designation and monotypy, carried over to *Ctenobittacus* **nom. nov.**)

*Ctenobittacus tongchuanensis* (Hong, 2009) **new combination**

≡ *Ctenophlebia tongchuanensis* Hong, 2009: 425–426, Figs 5–7

The grammatical gender of *Ctenobittacus* **nom. nov.** is masculine, in alignment with that of *Bittacus*. *Ctenobittacus* was not used for any genus of metazoan on the Index to Organism Names (Clarivate Analytics 2009), Paleobiology (Uhen *et al.* 2023b), EDNA fossil insect (Mitchell 2013), Catalogue of Life (Bánki *et al.* 2024), Encyclopedia of Life (Anonymous 2024), Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF.org 2024) or Interim Register of Marine and Nonmarine Genera (Rees 2023) on-line databases at the time of writing, all accessed on 11 January 2025.

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