

**OPINION 2152 (Case 3320)*****Papilio sapho* Drury, 1782 (Insecta, Lepidoptera): specific name conserved**

**Abstract.** The Commission has ruled that the specific name *Papilio sapho* Drury, 1782 (currently *Heliconius sapho*) (NYMPHALIDAE) is conserved for a species of brush-footed butterflies inhabiting the Neotropics. The name has been in use for more than 220 years, but is a junior primary homonym of *Papilio sappho* Pallas, 1771 (currently *Neptis sappho*) which belongs to a different subfamily inhabiting the Palaearctic. Both names are in common and widespread use, and the Commission has ruled that *P. sapho* Drury is not invalid by reason of being a junior primary homonym of *P. sappho* Pallas.

**Keywords.** Nomenclature; taxonomy; Lepidoptera; NYMPHALIDAE; *Heliconius*; *Heliconius sapho*; *Neptis sappho*; Neotropics; Palaearctic; brush-footed butterflies.

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**Ruling**

- (1) Under the plenary power it is hereby ruled that the specific name *sapho* Drury, 1782, as published in the binomen *Papilio sapho*, is not invalid by reason of being a junior primary homonym of *Papilio sappho* Pallas, 1771.
- (2) The entry on the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology for *Heliconius* Kluk is hereby emended to record that the date of publication was 1780 and not 1802.
- (3) The following names are hereby placed on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology:
  - (a) *sappho* Pallas, 1771, as published in the binomen *Papilio sappho*;
  - (b) *sapho* Drury, 1782, as published in the binomen *Papilio sapho* (ruled in (1)) above to be not invalid by reason of being a junior primary homonym of *Papilio sappho* Pallas, 1771).
- (4) The entry on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology for *charithonia* Linnaeus, 1767, as published in the binomen *Papilio charithonia*, is hereby emended to record that it is the type species of *Heliconius* Kluk, 1780 and not 1802.
- (5) The entries for the following names on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Generic Names in Zoology are hereby emended to record that the date of publication of *Heliconius* Kluk was 1780 and not 1802:
  - (a) *Heliconius* Latreille, 1804;
  - (b) *Heliconia* Godart, 1819;
  - (c) *Apostrophia* Hübner, 1816.

**History of Case 3295**

An application to conserve the specific name of *Papilio sapho* Drury, 1782 was received from Gerardo Lamas (*Museo de Historia Natural, Universidad Nacional Mayor de San Marcos, Lima-14, Peru*) and James L.B. Mallet (*Department of*

*Biology, University College London, London NW1 2HE, U.K.)* on 1 June 2004. After correspondence the case was published in BZN 62: 21–24 (March 2005). The title, abstract and keywords of the case were published on the Commission's website. No comments on this case were received.

### Decision of the Commission

On 1 December 2005 the members of the Commission were invited to vote on the proposals published in BZN 62: 22. At the close of the voting period on 1 March 2006 the votes were as follows:

Affirmative votes: – 18: Alonso-Zarazaga, Bock, Bouchet, Brothers, Calder, Fortey, Halliday, Kerzhner, Macpherson, Mahnert, Mawatari, Minelli, Nielsen, Papp, Patterson, Rosenberg, Štys and van Tol.

Negative votes: – none.

Lamas abstained as an author of the Application.

No votes were received from Ng and Song.

### Original references

The following are the original references to the names placed on, and emendments made to, Official Lists and an Official Index by the ruling given in the present Opinion:

*Apostraphia* Hübner, 1816, *Verzeichniss bekannter Schmettlinge*, 1: 13.

*charithonia*, *Papilio*, Linnaeus, 1767, *Systema Naturae*, Ed. 12, vol. 1, p. 757.

*Heliconia* Godart, 1819, *Encyclopédie Méthodique*, vol. 9, p. 203.

*Heliconius* Kluk, 1780, *Zwierząt domowych i dzikich, osobliwości krajoowych, historyi naturalnej poczatki i gospodarstwo*, vol. 4, p. 82.

*Heliconius* Latreille, 1804, *Nouveau Dictionnaire d'Histoire Naturelle*, vol. 24, pp. 185, 199.  
*sapho*, *Papilio*, Drury, 1782, *Illustrations of Natural History. Wherein are exhibited upwards of two hundred figures of exotic insects*, vol. 3, p. 54.

*sappho*, *Papilio*, Pallas, 1771, *Reise durch verschiedene Provinzen des russischen Reichs. Erster Theil*, p. 471.