



Terminology of -onyms as Applied in Taxonomy

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Source: *Taxon*, Vol. 1, No. 7 (Sep., 1952), pp. 110-111

Published by: [International Association for Plant Taxonomy \(IAPT\)](#)

Stable URL: <http://www.jstor.org/stable/1217886>

Accessed: 08/03/2014 06:14

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have so many commodities, or into which nature put so numerous virtues, like I often adduced in my writings, and by which they put, I hold, us Christians to shame”.

And he had a sense of humour. From many examples of his good-natured jokes I only quote a single alinea from a letter to Governor-General Camphuys. He offered Camphuys a collection of Ambonese shells with the following charming comment. “I have also been informed, not long ago, that Your Excellency by Your servants on the islands Edam and Alckmaer have had collected so many Sea curiosities of shells, that they might defy the Ambonese and Moluccan kinds, which agrees with my old guess and assures me that it must be partly correct, as I received already more than 40 species from the Batavian beaches sent by several friends. But whether they could defy the Ambonese in preciosity and beauty of kind that touches the honour of the Ambonese princely while we have sent over the seas rarities during these many years. I have therefore decided, subject to Your Excellency’s consent, to put this to an issue and to stage a test, and to that end I have called to the colours about a hundred species from among the Ambonese champions; they are wrapped together in a little tom-tom sent herewith. They are charged to challenge the Batavian fighters, and I am hoping to hear the outcome of that Bataille in time; should they lose the battle, they need not return but may remain in captivity”

I have reached the end of my homage to the blind seer of Ambon.

When Governor-General van der Capellen visited in 1824 Amboina, he erected a new monument in honour of the greatest pioneer naturalist that had ever lived in the Moluccas. The first grave monument had been destroyed by English soldiers who hoped to find gold buried under it. This second monument remained till it was hit by a bomb in the last world war and was smashed. Will it be replaced by a new, a third monument? It seems an attractive thought but whether it will be realized or not, the memory of Rumphius remains undamaged, unchanged. Among his other works is the *Herbarium Amboinense*, indestructible, an ever green, ever flourishing garden, the surviving and stirring evidence of the life of a great man and great scientist. All those who may be interested for personal or professional reasons in the plant world of the Moluccas, and also all those who really care for the progress and development of science and true culture will honour Rumphius, now and in the future.

Terminology of *-onyms* as applied in Taxonomy

by

J. PACLT (Bratislava)

I think it might be useful to publish in our well-beloved *Taxon* a short list of terms used in biological taxonomy to distinguish between various types of scientific names.

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* * *

ANTONYM. — Each name being not a synonym. Strictly, this term applies to words of an opposite meaning. Ref. (3).

BASIONYM (misspelt “basinym”). — A name-bringing synonym, i.e. a name used by the original author, e.g. *Clavaria corniculata* FRIES (cf. Neonym). Etymology: *βασισ* + *ώνυμος* (*basis* + *ónymos*). Ref. (2).

GENONYM (misspelt often “geneonym”). — A name of a genus, a generic name. Ref. (3, 5).

HOMONYM. — A name preoccupied by another with the same orthography (junior homonym) or preoccupying a later identical name (older homonym). Ref. (1 to 5).

HYPONYM. — A term indicating that the

taxon to which it applies is undetermined. Syn.: nomen nudum, n. subnudum, n. dubium. Ref. (1).

IDIONYM. — A homonym due to some error in identification of two or more specimens which were suggested to be members of the same species, e.g. *Parietaria judaica* WILLDENOW (1805) nec STRAND (1759). Ref. (3, 5).

LOGONYM. — A name of a species which became the genotype by subsequent designation. Ref. (5).

MATAEONYM (term. nov.). — A superfluous name given when there is an older valid name based on the same type (= Typonym II) or on another member of the same group (= Metonym). Syn.: nomen superfluum, n. hypertelicum. Ref. (1).

METONYM = Mataeonym.

MORPHONYM. — A name of a species, the specific name. Ref. (5). Accordingly, we may have a hypomorphonym which would mean a name of an infraspecific taxon like subspecies.

NEONYM. — A new name proposed to

replace either a junior homonym or a name of a new combination, e.g. *Donkella corniculata* (FRIES) X. Y., comb. nov. (cf. Basionym). Ref. (3, 5).

PARONYM. — A name related etymologically to another but spelt differently, e.g. *Bougainvillea* (COMM.) SPACH and *Buginvillaea* COMM. ex JUSS. Paronyms may be synonyms or not. Ref. (3).

POLYONYM. — A name of quite different and permanently confused meanings. Syn.: nomen ambiguum, n. confusum. Ref. (3).

SYNONYM. — A name of the same meaning as another. Ref. (1 to 5).

TAUTONYM. — A trivial name which exactly repeats the generic name with or without the addition of a transcribed symbol. Rejected in botany, used in zoology. Ref. (1, 3, 4).

TYPONYM (I). — A trivial name like *typus*, *typicus*, *typicalis* being used in designation of the genotype (holo-genotypus typonymicus). Used in zoology. Ref. (3, 4).

TYPONYM (II) = Mataeonym.

TYPOLOGICAL CLASSIFICATION OF FLOWERING PLANTS

by

E. E. LEPIK (Sioux Falls, S. D.).

Latest observations on the behavior of the family of *Bombidae* once more confirmed the well known ability of pollinating insects to distinguish clearly the flower types from each other. In carrying on their delicate work, these pollinators normally do not mix the pollen of different plant species, whose distinctive characteristics are clearly expressed in their flowers. The *steadfastness* of pollinators to *certain species* (Artstetigkeit), or to a *definite flower type* respectively (Typenstetigkeit), is one of the most important prerequisites for a steady evolution of flowering plants.

The experiments with new nerve poisons led to the discovery of several new instincts and senses of insects: sense for colors, symmetry, numbers, distance, smell, orientation, and a keen all-esthetic sense, which is similar to, but not identical with, our sense for beauty. Dr K. VON FRISCH with his extensive research disclosed a perfect system of communication among the bees.

This experimental work and new observations in nature, favored the clarification of

interrelations between the insects and plants, providing a new approach to the problem of evolution of flower types from the standpoint of a biological whole, or *holon*^{*)}.

Fitted with these remarkable psychic and physical abilities, and guided by the *trophoelectic* or food selecting *instincts*, the pollinating insects unconsciously are the carriers of an important selective work among the flowering plants. Steadfast to a certain species, but selective among the varieties and ecotypes of the same species, the insects expect to find richer nectar deposits from flowers that are more beautifully colored and whose odors are more intensive and attractive. And their expectations have indeed been fulfilled.

^{*)} According to a proposition of Professor Dr F. MERKENSCHLAGER, "*hologenesis*" is the most natural term to use in expressing the genesis and historical development of the biotic whole or holon, though the euphonious Greek word "*holos*" has already been used in connection with "*genesis*" in different meanings.