

THE STATUS OF SEVEN NOMINA NOVA INTRODUCED BY H. STEINMANN (1997) During the preparation of the Global Species Database Odonata within the framework of the international Catalogue of Life programme (see J. VAN TOL, 2006. www.sp2000.org or www.odonata.info) I noticed seven nomina nova introduced by H. STEINMANN (1997a, b, *Tierreich* 110/111: 1-500, 1-636). As will be explained below, it has appeared that all new names are unnecessary replacement names. It is considered worthwhile to publish the arguments, since such catalogues may have long-lasting impact on the use of scientific names. The names are in alphabetical order of species-group names.

A general remark can also be made. Steinmann argues for all names to be replaced that they are junior *secondary* homonyms; they are actually junior *primary* homonyms.

- *cancer* Steinmann, 1997b: 172, *Onychogomphus*. – Replacement name for *Gomphus (Onychogomphus) ruptus* Selys, 1858 (nec Selys, 1857). STEINMANN (1997b) includes two nominal taxa in his catalogue, viz. *Nihonogomphus ruptus* Selys, 1857, and *Onychogomphus ruptus* Selys, 1858. For the latter he proposes *O. cancer* as a replacement. However, both nominal taxa refer to the same taxonomic species. The references of Steinmann to Selys (1857, *Monogr. Gomph.*: 393), and to Selys (1858, *Mém. Soc. r. Sci., Liège* 11: 653) pertain to the same publication (E. de SELYS, 1858, *Monographie des Gomphines*, Muquardt, Bruxelles).
- *johnsoni* Steinmann, 1997b: 12, *Aeshna*.

- Replacement name for *Aeshna gigas* Bartenef, 1909 (nec Rambur, 1842). *Aeshna gigas* Bartenef is considered a junior synonym of *Aeshna crenata* Hagen, 1856 (B.F. BELYSHV, 1973: 405, *The dragonflies of Siberia*, Vol. 1, part 2, Nauka, Novosibirsk), so a replacement name was unnecessary.
- *kiautai* Steinmann, 1997a: 201, *Argia*.
 - Replacement name for *Argia apicalis* Matsumura, 1913 (nec Say, 1839). The status of *Argia apicalis* Matsumura was ascertained by ASAHINA (1951: 15, *Kontyú* 19: 15-22), when he introduced the name *Rhipidolestes okinawana* sp. n. [recte: *okinawanus*] for this species.
- *schmidti* Steinmann, 1997a: 259, *Enallagma*.
 - Replacement name for *Enallagma risi* Pinhey, 1962 (nec Schmidt, 1961). The homonymy of *Enallagma risi* Pinhey was already recognised by PINHEY (1966: 9, *Arnoldia* 2(33): 1-24), who introduced *Enallagma angolicum* nom. nov. for this species. Presently assigned to *Pinheyagrion*.
- *secundus* Steinmann, 1997b: 112, *Gomphurus*.
 - Replacement name for *Gomphus septima* Westfall, 1956 (nec Needham, 1930). Both nominal taxa *septimus* Needham, 1930 and *septima* Westfall, 1956 were indeed described in *Gomphus* (contra e.g. BRIDGES, 1991: VII.190, *Catalogue of the family-group, genus-group and species-group names of the Odonata of the World*, Privately published, Urbana). These names should, however, not be considered homonyms. *Septimus* is an adjective, but *septima* appears to be a noun in apposition. ‘This species is named for Dr Septima Smith ...’ (WESTFALL, 1956: 253, *Quart. J. Fla. Acad. Sci.* 19: 251-258). Both names cannot be considered ‘variant spellings’ of the same name. Since a difference of one letter is sufficient to prevent homonymy (INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON ZOOLOGICAL NOMENCLATURE, 1999, *International Code of Zoological Nomenclature*, London: Article 57.6), *Gomphurus secundus* Steinmann is an unnecessary replacement name.
- *vilma* Steinmann, 1997b: 52-53, *Gynacantha*.
 - Replacement name for *Aeshna viridis* Rambur, 1842 (nec Eversmann, 1836). This

name has not been used as a valid name for a taxonomic taxon since RAMBUR (1842, *Histoire naturelle des Insectes. Névroptères*. Roret, Paris). The status is thus uncertain, and should be considered a *nomen oblitum*. Based on the same type, the name *Gynacantha*

vilma has to be considered a *nomen oblitum* as well.

J. v a n T o l, National Museum of Natural History Naturalis, P.O. Box 9517, 2300 RA Leiden, The Netherlands; – tol@naturalis.nl