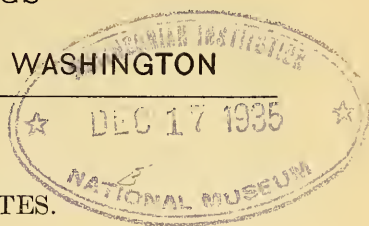


PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
BIOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON



GENERAL NOTES.

NEW NAMES FOR FIVE SOUTH AMERICAN ASTERACEAE.

The following new combinations for five South American Asteraceae have been found necessary in the course of recent work.

***Chevreulia sarmentosa* (Pers.) Blake.**

Tussilago ? *sarmentosa* Pers. Syn. 2:456. 1807.

Chevreulia stolonifera Cass. Dict. Sci. Nat. 8:516. 1817; Baker in Mart. Fl. Bras. 6^o:120. 1882 (synonymy).

A rather common South American species, extending from Paraguay to Bolivia; found also, according to authors, on Tristan d'Acunha.

***Blainvillea brasiliensis* (Nees & Mart.) Blake.**

Galophthalmum brasiliense Nees & Mart. in Wied, Nov. Act. Acad. Leop.-Carol. Nat. Cur. 12:8. pl. 2. 1824.

Oligogyne bahiensis DC. Prodr. 5:629. 1836.

Calypocarpus bahiensis Schultz Bip. Bot. Zeit. 24:165. 1866.

Blainvillea bahiensis Baker in Mart. Fl. Bras. 6^o:177. pl. 57, f. 2. 1884.

A specimen labelled *Blainvillea bahiensis* Baker, collected in Brazil by Sello (no. 563) and received by the National Herbarium among duplicates from the Klatt Herbarium, agrees well enough with the description and figure of Nees and Martius and also with those of Baker. Baker cites specimens collected by Maximilian, Prince of Wied-Neuwied, from which the species was described by Nees and Martius, but not the collection (*Blanchet* 1706) on which De Candolle's name was based. The disk corollas in the specimen examined are 4-toothed (and with 4 stamens), not 5-toothed as described by Nees and Martius. Baker figures the stamens as 4, but does not indicate the number of corolla teeth.

***Onoseris purpurea* (L. f.) Blake.**

Atractylis purpurea L. f. Suppl. 349. 1781.

Onoseris purpurata Willd. Sp. Pl. 3^o: 1702. 1804; DC. Ann. Mus. Hist. Nat. 19:65. pl. 3, f. 4. 1812.

Isotypus rosiflorus Triana, L'Hort. Franç. III. 6:138. pl. 10. 1864.

Although the name *Onoseris purpurea* has appeared in print at least twice, it has apparently never been properly proposed. De Candolle

(Prodr. 7:34. 1838) uses the name *O. purpurata* Willd., but cites "*Onoseris purpurea* Less. syn. 119" in synonymy. He also wrongly cites the original name of Linnaeus filius as *Atractylis purpurata*. Lessing at the page cited used the name "*O. purpurata* Willd.," as he had done earlier in his review of the genus in *Linnaea* (5:339. 1830). In the *Index Kewensis* (2:350. 1894), "*Onoseris purpurea* DC. Prodr. vii. 34" is cited as a synonym and referred to *O. purpurata*. As pointed out above, this occurs in De Candolle only as a synonymous name, wrongly attributed to Lessing.

Barnadesia caryophylla (Vell.) Blake.

Xenophontia caryophylla Vell. Fl. Flum. 346. 1825; Icon. 8: pl. 85. 1827, as *X. caryophylla*.

Barnadesia rosea Lindl. Bot. Reg. 39: pl. 29. 1843; Baker in Mart. Fl. Bras. 6³:364. pl. 98. 1884 (synonymy).

The application of Vellozo's name to this species is clear. The earlier spelling of the specific name (*X. caryophylla*) is to be taken as a typographical error; it is corrected to *X. caryophylla* on the plate in the *Icones*.

Trichocline radiata (Vell.) Blake.

Ingenhusia radiata Vell. Fl. Flum. 351. 1825.

Ingen'houzia radiata Vell. Fl. Flum. Icon. 8: pl. 93. 1827.

Seris polymorpha Less. *Linnaea* 5:254. 1830.

Onoseris brevifolia D. Don, Trans. Linn. Soc. 16:246. 1830.

Trichocline polymorpha Baker in Mart. Fl. Bras. 6³:373. 1884 (synonymy).
—S. F. Blake.

TERMITE SYNONYMY—ULMERIELLA BAUCKHORN
MEUNIER AND MACROHODOTERMES FULLER.

Since publishing our paper on "A Fossil Termite from Germany," *Proc Biol. Soc. Wash.*, Vol. 38, pp. 21-22, Mar. 12, 1925, we have seen winged adults of *Macrohodotermes mossambicus* subspecies *transvaalensis* Fuller from South Africa and find that the wings of this species of *Macrohodotermes* differ in no generic character from that of *Ulmeriella*. The fossil genus has priority but, as many characters of termite genera are derived from other characters than the wings, we are not prepared to definitely state that *Macrohodotermes* is a synonym of *Ulmeriella*. Until more is known of the fossil form it will be advisable to retain the name *Macrohodotermes*, although it is probably the same genus as *Ulmeriella*, and no generic characters can be mentioned in which they are known to differ. The relatively small size of *Ulmeriella* compared to species of *Macrohodotermes* is not significant.

—T. D. A. Cockerell,
T. E. Snyder.

AN OLDER NAME FOR PIPRA OPALIZANS PELZELN.

On page 91 of H. R. Schinz's "Naturgeschichte der Vögel," 1854 (1846-53), appears an unquestionable description of the bird described by Pelzeln in 1868¹ as *Pipra opalizans*. Schinz's description is headed, "Taf. 39. Der Manakin mit glänzendem Federbusch. *Pipra Iris*. Schinz." Plate 39 contains, among other figures, a recognizable portrait agreeing with the description of *P. iris* but labeled "*Pipra strigilata*," a totally distinct species not mentioned in the text. The new form is said, erroneously, to be from "Guyana." The exact date of publication of page 91 is in doubt, but I have ascertained, from an original wrapper, that 42 plates, presumably pls. A-F and 1-36 with accompanying text, were issued by April, 1851, while Lieferung 8 with six more plates was promised for the end of April. *Pipra iris*, therefore, may be taken as of May, 1851, with little doubt.

The discovery of this reference may throw some light on the disappearance of the type of *P. opalizans*, secured by Natterer near Pará in December, 1834. Natterer's collection lay in Vienna from 1836, and earlier, to 1855 before Pelzeln began work upon it. In the meantime Schinz's description and figure of *P. iris* appeared and Natterer's specimen disappeared. Pelzeln found an account of the bird in Natterer's field-book and, in the absence of the specimen, drew up his description from Natterer's notes. Both types (of *iris* and *opalizans*) were males. No other specimens are known to have reached Europe or elsewhere until the late '70s when Steere brought, from near Pará, a female which lay unidentified until 1903 when it was recognized and described by Hellmayr.² In 1894, Albert Schulz secured a male near Pará which Berlepsch described and figured.³ The species has since become more common in collections, but up to the dates given, these are all the known specimens. Schinz gives no indication as to the source of his specimen and no other new species are described in his book from which evidence might be secured. It seems probable that Natterer's specimen came into Schinz's hands, but it is curious that the description should have lain so long, undetected, in a work so common as the "Naturgeschichte der Vögel."

—John T. Zimmer.

A NEW CHINESE PEACH.

Amygdalus kansuensis (Rehder) Skeels.

Prunus kansuensis Rehder, Journ. Arn. Arb. 3: 21. 1921.

Seeds of this wild peach were first introduced from China by Mr. Frank N. Meyer in 1914, and the peculiar markings led me to list them as *Amygdalus* sp. It was not until 1921 that identifiable material was grown from these seeds and was described by Mr. Rehder, who also quotes Mr. Meyer's notes.

—H. C. Skeels.

¹ Zur Ornithologie Brasiliens, pt. II, pp. 128, 186-187, Sept. 1868.

²Verh. k. k. zool.-bot. Ges. Wien, 1903, p. 201.

³Ibis, ser. 7, 4, pp. 60-62, pl. II, 1898.

LOONS AND HORNED GREBES IN POUND NETS.

While spending a few days in July, 1924, at the Charity Islands in Saginaw Bay, Michigan, I was interested to discover on a short stretch of beach the remains of three loons (*Gavia immer*). Judging from appearances they had been dead for three or four months, and while it was impossible to determine the cause of death, my suspicions were naturally directed toward the nets of the commercial fishermen operating in the vicinity. I accordingly availed myself on every opportunity to converse with these men and obtained the following reports:

The nets most extensively used are "pound" nets, consisting of a series of leads and funnels that terminate in the chamber, or pound, that gives to the trap its name. I was told that during the seasons of migration, and particularly in fall, both loons and grebes (*Colymbus auritus*) are frequently captured in these nets. The effect of the entrance of these two species in the traps is very different. The loon is regarded by the fisherman as a great nuisance, as they state that fish will not enter a pound in which there is a loon. These birds accordingly are killed at every opportunity. On the other hand the presence of the much smaller grebes does not appear to affect the catch of fish, and these birds are generally liberated. One fisherman informed me that in addition to removing a large quantity of whitefish and trout from a certain net, he once filled two fish boxes with grebes.

—*Frederick C. Lincoln.*

A CHINESE POTATOBEAN.

Glycine fortunei (Maxim.) J. B. Norton.

Apios fortunei Maxim., Bull. Acad. Petersb. 18: 396. 1873.

This potatobean was introduced from China by Mr. J. B. Norton with the following note,—“This relative of *Glycine apios* and *G. priceana* is very important as a possible means of producing hybrids. It differs from both our American species but may cross with one or both. It has a large fleshy root suggesting *A. priceana* in type. If, through it, the type of either one of our native plants can be broken up and a range of variation started to use in selection work, a new crop will be assured.”

—*H. C. Skeels.*

A NEW INTRODUCTION OF A CHINESE TORREYA.

Tumion fargesii (Franch.) Skeels.

(*Torreya fargesii* Franch., Journ. de Bot. 13: 264. 1899.)

Mr. J. F. Rock has recently sent from the forests on the Mekong-Salwin Divide in Yunnan, China, some seeds of a torreyia which are globose and with the albumen ruminated nearly to the center of the seed. This is characteristic of the species usually known as *Torreya fargesii* Franch., which has hitherto been confused by some botanists with *Tumion grande* (Fortune) Greene. The seeds of the latter species are ellipsoidal or oblong and the albumen is only slightly ruminated.

—*H. C. Skeels.*

BIFORMIS A PREOCCUPIED NAME.

Nasutitermes (Obtusitermes) biforma Snyder was described in 1924 (Proc. Ent. Soc. Wash., Vol. 26, no. 1) from Panama. The species name was later corrected to *biformis* (Proc. Ent. Soc. Wash., Vol. 26, no. 7). However, there already is a *Nasutitermes (Trinervitermes) biformis* Wasmann from Ceylon, described in 1902 (Zool. Jahrb. Abt. Syst. Bd. 17, Heft 1). Hence I shall change *Nasutitermes (Obtusitermes) biformis* Snyder to *Nasutitermes (Obtusitermes) panamae* Snyder.

—Thomas E. Snyder.

NOTE ON ARREMONOPS SUPERCILIOSUS CHIAPENSIS NELSON.

Through an inexcusable oversight this form was omitted from consideration in preparing my paper on *Arremonops* (in these Proceedings, Volume 36, 1923, pp. 35–44), and has apparently been relegated to synonymy even by the original describer himself, since I find the type-series all labeled *superciliosus*. It is a good race, however, readily separable from *superciliosus* by the grayish suffusion of the upper parts, the median crown-stripe and sides of the head in particular being decidedly grayish by comparison, instead of buffy, while the lateral crown-stripes are paler brown. The under parts have much more buffy suffusion on the breast and sides. It is still more different from *sumichrasti*. Its known range is confined to the valley of the Chiapas River in the Mexican State of the same name.

For the privilege of examining the specimens on which the above remarks are based I am indebted to the authorities of the Bureau of Biological Survey.

—W. E. Clyde Todd.

THE "PSEUDO-FLIGHT" OF TERMITES.

In 1919, the writer observed maturely pigmented, brachypterous, colonizing adults of the termite *Reticulitermes virginicus* Banks emerging from a stump during the "swarm" of the winged sexual adults. These brachypterous adults, it was believed, had inherited the instinct to fly or swarm from the period when all termites were winged; having no wings they can only run about, and it was thought possible that this was the manner in which they emerged from the parent colony to establish new colonies!

It is now regarded more probable that brachypterous adults normally leave, with workers and soldiers by subterranean passages, since these forms must be fed by the workers, in order to survive.

On April 25, 1925, this "pseudo-flight" of a few, mature, brachypterous adults of the same species of termite, was again observed. These forms came from an infested building in Washington, D. C., during the swarm of winged adults at 3 P. M. This was the third swarm of winged adults from this building during the spring of 1925; previous swarms had occurred on April 11 and 14.

This "pseudo-flight" then occasionally occurs in colonies and probably is a reversion manifested only by a few adults.

—Thomas E. Snyder.

A NEW NAME FOR THE GENUS ACTOPHILUS OBERHOLSER.

Dr. Charles W. Richmond has kindly called my attention to the fact that the generic name *Actophilus* is untenable. This generic term was proposed (Oberholser, Proc. Acad. Nat. Sci. Phila., June 2, 1899, p. 202) to replace *Phyllopezus* Sharpe, preoccupied, for a genus of African Jacanidae. It is, however, invalidated by *Actophilus* Agassiz (Index Universalis, 1846, p. 7), an emendation of *Actephelus* Stephens (Coleoptera). It may be replaced by *Actophilornis* (ἀκτή, beach; φιλέω, I love; ὄρνις, bird); and *Parra africana* Gmelin is designated as the type.

The species are.

Actophilornis africanus (Gmelin).

Actophilornis albinuchus (Is. Geoffroy).

—Harry C. Oberholser.

NOTE ON THE ATLANTIC COAST SPECIES OF PLICATULA.

Since the institution of the genus by Lamarck in 1801, the earlier writers have confused different species under one name, and seventy-two years later Reeve added to the confusion by giving names to mere mutations of a single species. The examination of a large series of Atlantic Coast specimens leads to the following conclusions:

1. *Plicatula spondyloidea* Meuschen (as *Ostrea*) 1781.

Synonyms are *P. reniformis* Lamarck, 1819, and, in part, *P. barbadensis* Orbigny, 1846, and *P. imbricata* Reeve, 1873.

The shell is grayish white, sometimes with a touch of brown on the hinge-teeth. The ribs are high, carinate-imbricate, and few in number. Range, Florida to Texas.

2. *Plicatula gibbosa* Lamarck, 1801.

Synonyms: *P. ramosa* and *depressa* Lamarck, 1819.

Shell white with ramose brown or reddish lines. Valves more compressed, ribs low, feebly imbricate, more or less rounded and more numerous. Range, North Carolina to Florida and the Antilles.

3. *Plicatula mesembrina*, n. sp.

Synonym: *P. barbadensis* Orbigny, *ex parte*, 1846.

Shell whitish or with suffused reddish brown; valves compressed with low rounded ribs (6–10) and shallow interspaces, and narrow, usually pointed umbones. Width of shell, 27; length, 30; diameter about 12 mm. U. S. Nat. Mus. Cat. No. 343260, Uruguay. Range, Coasts of Brazil, Uruguay and Argentina.

—W. H. Dall.

NOTE ON THE SPECIES OF PETRICOLARIA OF THE EASTERN COAST OF THE UNITED STATES.

A study of a large collection of this genus shows that the form long known as *P. dactylus* Sowerby is only a variety of the *P. pholadiformis* Lamarck, which may be called variety *lata*. Type in U. S. N. Mus. No. 95645, Quahog Bay, Maine. The true *dactylus* is a native of the West coast of South America.

—W. H. Dall.