



Corrections in the status and rank of names used to denote varietal forms of mosquitoes (Diptera: Culicidae)

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Abstract

The status and rank of mosquito varietal names listed in *A Catalog of the Mosquitoes of the World* are reviewed. Names proposed or adopted for existent varieties are deemed to be subspecific or infrasubspecific under provisions of the *International Code of Zoological Nomenclature* that regulate the rank of species-group names that follow binomina. Type data and taxonomic information are provided for each taxon.

Key words: Culicidae, mosquitoes, varieties, subspecies, infrasubspecies, taxonomy

Introduction

Recent work on an inventory of the mosquitoes of the world revealed the need to examine the status of varietal taxa in relation to provisions contained in Article 45 of the *International Code of Zoological Nomenclature* (ICZN, 1999) that regulate the rank of species-group names. Specifically, it became necessary to determine whether names proposed or adopted for varietal forms before 1961 are deemed to be subspecific or infrasubspecific under Article 45.6.

Fifty-seven nominal forms were formally recognized as varietal entities in *A Catalog of the Mosquitoes of the World* (Knight & Stone, 1977). The names of two of these forms were synonymized with specific names prior to 1977 and should not have been listed as valid varieties. The synonymic data for these two forms is provided in the first section below. Twenty-one of the varietal names listed in the catalog were either synonymized with a nominotypical form or raised to subspecific or specific rank before the end of January 1992. These changes are recorded in the three supplements to the catalog (Knight, 1978; Ward, 1984; Gaffigan & Ward, 1985; Ward, 1992). The taxonomic status of five varieties was changed after January 1992, which was the cut-off date for taxonomic changes recorded in the third supplement (Ward, 1992). These five names are listed in their current combinations in the second section below. The third section treats the 30 nominal taxa that were still recognized as varieties at the end of 2006. Finally, two nominal varieties reduced to infrasubspecific rank by White (1975) are discussed in the fourth section.

Taxa are listed alphabetically in each section below. The generic and subgeneric names of aedine mosquitoes comply with the classification of tribe Aedini proposed by Reinert *et al.* (2004, 2006). The 'traditional' generic and subgeneric names of taxa formerly included in genus *Aedes*, i.e. those recognized prior to the separation of *Ochlerotatus* and *Aedes* by Reinert (2000), are indicated in square brackets following the names proposed by Reinert *et al.* (2004, 2006). Each name in the third section is listed with its appropriate rank followed by its original combination and/or rank and authorship in parentheses. Taxa listed in all four sections are accompanied by type data and taxonomic information. The symbols ♀, ♂, L, P and E used to denote type