



## Correspondence

urn:lsid:zoobank.org:pub:01C424C9-C9F1-4E1F-A381-0033B5B70698

### More than a number: clarifying the dates of publication of some papers of A. Doering on land and freshwater shells from Argentina and a note on his taxon *Clessinia* (Odontostomidae)

ABRAHAM S.H. BREURE<sup>1,\*</sup> & SERGIO E. MIQUEL<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Naturalis Biodiversity Center, P.O. Box 9517, 2300 RA Leiden, the Netherlands

<sup>2</sup>Museo Argentino de Ciencias Naturales “Bernardino Rivadavia”, Av. Ángel Gallardo 470, 1405 Ciudad Autónoma de Buenos Aires, Argentina; Consejo Nacional de Investigaciones Científicas y Técnicas (CONICET)

\*Corresponding author: ashbreure@gmail.com.

#### Abstract

The dates of publication of ten papers of A. Doering published from 1874–1879 in two Argentinian journals are reviewed. Seven of these papers appear to have been published later than their printed dates suggest. The status of one taxon described in these papers, *Clessinia* Doering, 1875, is clarified.

**Keywords:** Mollusca, Gastropoda, Orthalicoidea, nomenclature, prioritization

#### Introduction

One of the cornerstones in zoological nomenclature is the Rule of Priority (Art. 23.1 ICZN (1999)): “The valid name of a taxon is the oldest available name applied to it”). Therefore the date of publication is an important tool for application of this rule, for which Art. 21 gives further guidelines. The dates of publication of older taxonomic works from the 19<sup>th</sup> century have sometimes been especially disputed, and reconstructions often have to be based on research in libraries resulting in collations for e.g. serial works (examples in malacology e.g. Coan et al. 2012a, 2012b). Much less attention, however, has been given to the publication dates of journals (but see e.g. Winckworth 1936, Duncan 1937, Raphael 1970, Evenhuis 2003). A new date for a publication may lead to a different prioritization of names, and thus a date can be more than just a number.

Adolfo Doering (1848–1926) published in two Argentinian journals a number of papers with notes and descriptions of new land and freshwater Mollusca from that country; these papers appeared between 1874 and 1879 (for a note on biography and bibliography of Doering, see Parodiz 1963). Of a selected number of these papers, however, different publication dates and pagination are cited in literature (Parodiz 1963, Zilch 1971, Neubert & Janssen 2004, Miquel et al. 2007, Miquel & Aguirre 2011, Pizá & Cazzaniga 2012). The aim of this paper is to discuss the publication dates of these selected Doering papers and present some new evidence found. The possible effect on prioritization is illustrated with the case of Doering’s taxon *Clessinia*.

#### Two journals, one history

The two Argentinian journals in which Doering published his malacological papers were the ‘Boletín de la Academia Nacional de Ciencias Exactas en Córdoba’ (BANC) and the ‘Periódico Zoológico’ (PZ). The complex history of the latter journal during the 1870s has recently been described by Acosta (2006). Both journals originated in Córdoba, where the Academia de Ciencias Exactas de Córdoba had been initiated by law of 11.ix.1869, with several Germans in the ‘initial group’ of professors. The journal BANC was started in 1874, with an introduction signed by Doering on 15.iv.1874. The journal PZ was started in May 1874 by Hendrik Weyenbergh, who had been appointed Professor in Zoology in August 1872, as journal of the ‘Sociedad Entomológica Argentina’. After the first two numbers the name of the Society was changed to ‘Sociedad Zoológica Argentina’ to allow for a broader range of topics. Each volume