

MITRA PERLATA [RÖDING], 1798 (MOLLUSCA, GASTROPODA);
PROPOSED REJECTION AS A *NOMEN OBLITUM*. Z.N.(S.) 1726

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This communication requests the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature to reject for the purposes of the Law of Priority, but not for those of the Law of Homonymy, a specific name in the genus *Mitra* (Family Mitridae), as published by Peter Friedrich Röding in the *Museum Boltenianum sive Catalogus cimeliorum e tribus regnis naturae quae olim collegerat J. F. Bolten, Pars Secunda*, 1798.

Mitra perlata Röding, 1798, *Museum Boltenianum*: 136, no. 1702. Based on *Voluta pertusa* var. Gmelin, sp. 83 (in errore pro sp. 92); the citation lacks a diagnosis and references to figures. By way of elimination, however, Röding's *Mitra perlata* can be restricted to apply to *Voluta pertusa* var. β Gmelin (1791, *Caroli Linnaei systema naturae per regna tria naturae*, (ed. 13) 1 (6) : 3458); this particular variation was referred by Gmelin to an illustration in Knorr (1757, *Vergnügungen der Augen und des Gemüths* (2) pl. 4, fig. 6). Gmelin's other variation, i.e. *Voluta pertusa* var. γ , was based on an illustration in Favanne (1780, *Conchyliologie*, pl. 31, fig. D3), and Chemnitz (1788, *Systematisches Conchylien-Cabinet*, 10, pl. 151, figs. 1432–1433); both these figures represent *Mitra imperialis* Röding, 1798, described by Röding one page earlier (op. cit., p. 135), and can thus be excluded.

The Knorr figure cited by Gmelin for *Voluta pertusa* var. β , and provided with the name *Mitra perlata* by Röding, depicts the species known hitherto as *Mitra chrysostoma* Broderip (1836, *Proc. Zool. Soc. London* 1836 (3) : 194); it also superficially resembles *Mitra contracta* Swainson, 1821, but cannot be confused with this species. Under the rule of priority, *Mitra perlata* Röding, would have chronological precedence over *M. chrysostoma* Broderip. However, Röding's name has remained unused in primary and secondary literature on the subject for over 50 years. *Mitra chrysostoma* Broderip, is well established in Mitrid nomenclature for the species under discussion and a re-introduction of *Mitra perlata* Röding, would in no way contribute to the stability of nomenclature, and the latter should be rejected as a *nomen oblitum*.

I herewith submit to the International Commission the proposal that it should:

- (1) reject for the purposes of the Law of Priority, but not for those of the Law of Homonymy the specific name *perlata* [Röding], 1798, as published in the combination *Mitra perlata* which is a *nomen oblitum*;
- (2) place on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Specific Names in Zoology the name *perlata* [Röding] (1798, *Museum Boltenianum sive Catalogus cimeliorum e tribus regnis naturae quae olim collegerat J. F. Bolten, Pars Secunda* : 136) as published in the combination *Mitra perlata* (a *nomen oblitum*).



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