

**TELLINA OBLIQUA J. SOWERBY, 1817 (BIVALVIA): PROPOSED
CONSERVATION UNDER THE PLENARY POWERS. Z.N.(S.) 1849**

By Eugene V. Coan (*Dept. Biol. Sci., Stanford University, Stanford, California, U.S.A. 94305*) and D. L. F. Sealy (*Dept. of Palaeontology, British Museum (Natural History), Cromwell Road, London, S.W.7, England*)

This petition requests that the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature use its plenary powers to conserve the name of a well-known European Caenozoic fossil bivalve which has recently been discovered to be a junior primary homonym.

2. The name *Tellina obliqua* James Sowerby, 1817, was published in *Mineral Conchology* 2 (28) : 137–138, pl. 161, figs. 1 on 1 April 1817 (Dating: Sykes (1906), *Proc. malac. Soc. Lond.* 7 (3) : 192). Sowerby's name is a junior primary homonym of *Tellina obliqua* William Wood, 1815, published in *General Conchology* 1 : 152 (no. 17), pl. 41, figs. 4, 5 in 1815 or before (Dating: Iredale (1922), *Proc. malac. Soc. Lond.* 15 (2/3) : 91). The former is a common and well-known fossil *Macoma* found in Pliocene and Pleistocene of western Europe, while the latter is a *Semele*, most probably a synonym of *Semele purpurascens* (Gmelin, 1791), described as *Venus purpurascens* Gmelin, 1791, *Syst. Nat.* (ed. 13) 1 (VI) : 3288 (no. 91) (Dating: Hopkinson (1908), *Proc. zool. Soc. Lond.* for 1907 (4) : 1035–1037) and has never been brought into common use.

3. The International Commission is therefore requested:

- (1) to use its plenary powers to suppress the specific name *obliqua* Wood, 1815, as published in the binomen *Tellina obliqua*, for the purposes of both the Law of Priority and the Law of Homonymy;
- (2) to place the specific name *obliqua* Sowerby, 1817, as published in the binomen *Tellina obliqua*, on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology;
- (3) to place the specific name suppressed under the plenary powers in (1) above on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Specific Names in Zoology.



Coan, Eugene V. 1969. "Tellina obliqua J. Sowerby, 1817 (Bivalvia) proposed conservation under the plenary powers. Z.N.(S.) 1849." *The Bulletin of zoological nomenclature* 25, 166. <https://doi.org/10.5962/bhl.part.23983>.

View This Item Online: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/44467>

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.5962/bhl.part.23983>

Permalink: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/partpdf/23983>

Holding Institution

Natural History Museum Library, London

Sponsored by

Natural History Museum Library, London

Copyright & Reuse

Copyright Status: In copyright. Digitized with the permission of the rights holder.

Rights Holder: International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature

License: <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/3.0/>

Rights: <https://biodiversitylibrary.org/permissions>

This document was created from content at the **Biodiversity Heritage Library**, the world's largest open access digital library for biodiversity literature and archives. Visit BHL at <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org>.