

**PROPOSED USE OF THE PLENARY POWERS TO RENDER  
THE GENERIC NAME "LYSIOSQUILLA" DANA, 1852  
(CLASS CRUSTACEA, ORDER STOMATOPODA) THE  
OLDEST AVAILABLE NAME FOR THE SPECIES  
CURRENTLY REFERRED THERETO**

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The present application relates to a generic name, *Lysiosquilla* Dana, 1852 (Class Crustacea, Order Stomatopoda), which is in general use and is extremely well known, but which is not the oldest available generic name for the group of species concerned. The ruthless application of the *Règles* in the present case would give rise to enormous confusion, without serving any useful purpose whatever. I accordingly ask the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature to use their plenary powers in such a way as to permit the continued use of the above generic name.

The following are the original references to the generic names dealt with in the present application :—

*Lysiosquilla* Dana, 1852, *U.S. Explor. Exped.* **13** : 616 (type species, by selection by Fowler, 1912, *Ann. Rep. New Jersey State Mus.* **1911** : 539 : *Lysiosquilla inornata* Dana, 1852, *U.S. explor. Exped.* **13** : 616).

*Erichthus* Latreille, 1817, Cuvier's *Règn. anim.* (ed. 1) **3** : 43 (type species, by monotypy : *Astacus vitreus* Fabricius, 1775, *Syst. Ent.* : 417).

The name *Lysiosquilla* is in general use for a genus of Stomatopoda which inhabits the tropical and sub-tropical regions of the globe. Some of the species of this genus are very common, and the name occurs in many places in carcinological literature. In fact, every carcinologist who acknowledges the distinctness of this genus from the genus *Squilla* Fabricius, 1793 (*Ent. syst.* **2** : viii, 511) uses the name *Lysiosquilla* Dana for the adult forms of the species of this genus.

As far back, however, as the year 1817 larvae of species of this genus were placed by Latreille in a genus to which he gave the name *Erichthus*. As the name *Erichthus* Latreille, 1817, is much older than the name *Lysiosquilla* Dana, 1852, it should, under the Law of Priority, be used in place of that generic name by all who subjectively identify these genera with one another. The name *Erichthus* Latreille was often used by the older authors to denote larval forms, but is to-day used as a term to denote a certain group of larvae rather than as a generic name. This may be seen from the fact that at present the term *Lysierichthus* is used to denote the larvae of species of the genus



*Lysiosquilla* Dana (i.e., the true *Erichthus* of Latreille), the term *Pseuderichthus* to denote the larvae of the genus *Pseudosquilla* Dana, 1852, and the term *Gonerichthus* to denote the larvae of species of the genus *Gonodactylus* Berthold, 1827, while the original name *Erichthus* has fallen into disuse.

The substitution of the name *Erichthus* Latreille for the name *Lysiosquilla* Dana would cause such very great confusion that I ask the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature to take the necessary preventive action under their plenary powers. The concrete proposals which I accordingly submit are that the Commission should :—

- (1) use their plenary powers to suppress for the purposes of the Law of Priority, but not for those of the Law of Homonymy, the generic name *Erichthus* Latreille, 1817 ;
- (2) place the generic name *Lysiosquilla* Dana, 1852 (type species, by selection by Fowler, 1912 : *Lysiosquilla inornata* Dana, 1852) on the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology* ;
- (3) place the generic name *Erichthus* Latreille, 1817, as suppressed under (1) above, on the *Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Generic Names in Zoology* ;
- (4) place the trivial name *inornata* Dana, 1852 (as published in the binominal combination *Lysiosquilla inornata*) on the *Official List of Specific Trivial Names in Zoology*.

The gender of the generic name *Lysiosquilla* is feminine.



Holthuis, L. B. 1951. "Proposed use of the plenary powers to render the generic name " *Lysiosquilla* " Dana. 1852 (Class Crustacea, Order Stomato-poda) the oldest available name for the species currently referred thereto." *The Bulletin of zoological nomenclature* 2, 83–84.

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