Case 3212

Thalassema taenioides Ikeda, 1904 (currently *Ikeda taenioides*; Echiura): proposed conservation of the specific name

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Abstract. The purpose of this application is to conserve the name of *Ikeda taenioides* (Ikeda, 1904) for a species of echiuran from the coasts of Japan. *Thalassema halotaeniai* Ikeda, 1901 and *T. taeniaides* Ikeda, 1902 are earlier names which have remained unused since publication and it is proposed that they be suppressed. The genus *Ikeda* Wharton, 1913, the subfamily IKEDINAE Bock, 1942 and the order Heteromyota Fisher, 1946 were established in the phylum Echiura based on the single species.

Keywords. Nomenclature, taxonomy; Echiura; Heteromyota; IKEDIDAE; *Ikeda*; *Ikeda taenioides*; Japan.

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1. Ikeda (1901, p. 392) established the new species *Thalassema halotaeniai* with the Japanese name of 'Sanada–yumushi' for two echiuran specimens with an extremely elongated proboscis from an exposed sandy flat in Sagami Bay. A description in Japanese and illustrations were published in the last issue (December 1901) of vol. 13 of *Dobutsugaku Zasshi* [*The Zoological Magazine, Japan*].

2. Very soon after Ikeda's (1901) publication, the illustration (p. 387) of a complete echiurid specimen was repeated (now in colour) in the first issue (January 1902) of vol. 14 of the same journal. The plate carried the name '*Thalassema taeniaides* Ikeda', which is available under Article 12.2.7 of the Code. In the second issue (February 1902) of vol. 14 of the journal, Yasuda (p. 75) published an editorial note recording, without giving a reason, that the name *Thalassema halotaeniai* published in the preceding volume was an error and should be corrected to *Thalassema taeniaides*. *Thalassema halotaeniai* and *T. taeniaides* have both remained unused.

3. In 1904 Ikeda (p. 63) gave a description in English of the species under the name *Thalassema taenioides* [sic]. He cited this as 'n. sp.' [new species]. More details and several illustrations were added by Ikeda (1907), including (pl. 1, fig. 3) a further repeat of the 1901 and 1902 illustration. The 1904 paper referred to the forthcoming detailed study of 1907, and the 1907 publication recorded the 1904 paper. However, Ikeda's two descriptions (1904 and 1907) omitted any reference to his own (1901, 1902) and Yasuda's (1902) earlier publications, possibly because Ikeda regarded these as preliminary reports only for local (Japanese) interest.

4. In 1913 Wharton (p. 266) established the genus *Ikeda* with *Thalassema taenioides* Ikeda, 1904 as the type species by monotypy. Subsequently, Bock (1942, p. 16)

established the subfamily IKEDINAE (for spelling see Nishikawa, 1998) in the family THALASSEMATIDAE Bock, 1942, and Fisher (1946) established the order Heteromyota, based on the single species. The family–group name has been used at family level since Dawydoff (1959).

5. The illustration of a complete specimen of *Thalassema taenioides* was repeated in Ikeda's 1901, 1904 and 1907 publications, and it is clear that his 1901, 1904 and 1907 descriptions were based on specimens of the same species collected 'during October and November 1901' (see Ikeda, 1907, p. 18). In 1901 there were two specimens, in 1904 there were at least six. I have tried to find the specimens in some likely universities and museums, but so far have been unsuccessful. However, among some echiuran material housed at the University Museum, University of Tokyo (UMUT), I found some fragments labelled '*Thalassema halotan.* [sic], Dec. 24, 1901, Moroiso'. As far as I am aware, these are the only existing specimens of *T. taenioides* which were seen and identified by Ikeda.

6. Neither of the names *Thalassema halotaeniai* Ikeda, 1901 and *T. taeniaides* Ikeda, 1902 has been used since publication. The name *T. taenioides* has been in universal usage for the species, attributed to Ikeda (1904) and accompanied in Japan usually with the name 'Sanada–yumushi'. Publications in which the name *T. taenioides* has been adopted include Balzer (1931), Satô (1931, 1935, 1939), Bock (1942), Dawydoff (1959), Ito (1965), Stephen & Edmonds (1972), Edmonds (1987, 2000), Nishikawa (1992), McKenzie & Hughes (1999). I propose that the usage of *taenioides* be maintained and that the name be conserved by the suppression of the earlier unused names *T. halotaeniai* and *T. taeniaides*. For the sake of stability and simplicity the name *taenioides* is taken as available from Ikeda's (1904) detailed study of the species (rather than under Article 33.2.2 from the 1902 plate of *T.* '*taeniaides*'), in accord with Ikeda himself (1904 and 1907) and subsequent authors.

7. The International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature is accordingly asked:

(1) to use its plenary power to suppress the following names for the purposes of the Principle of Priority but not for those of the Principle of Homonymy:
   (a) *halotaeniai* Ikeda, 1901, as published in the binomen *Thalassema halotaeniai;*
   (b) *taeniaides* Ikeda, 1902, as published in the binomen *Thalassema taeniaides;*

(2) to place on the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology the name *Ikeda* Wharton, 1913 (gender: feminine), type species by monotypy *Thalassema taenioides* Ikeda, 1904;

(3) to place on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology the name *taenioides* Ikeda, 1904, as published in the binomen *Thalassema taenioides* (specific name of the type species of *Ikeda* Wharton, 1913);

(4) to place on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Specific Names in Zoology the following names:
   (a) *halotaeniai* Ikeda, 1901, as published in the binomen *Thalassema halotaeniai* and as suppressed in (1)(a) above;
   (b) *taeniaides* Ikeda, 1902, as published in the binomen *Thalassema taeniaides* and suppressed in (1)(b) above.

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Comments on this case are invited for publication (subject to editing) in the *Bulletin*; they should be sent to the Executive Secretary, I.C.Z.N., c/o The Natural History Museum, Cromwell Road, London SW7 5BD, U.K. (e-mail: iczn@nhm.ac.uk).