

ORTHOGRAPHY OF CERTAIN SPECIFIC EPITHETS

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Occasionally it becomes obvious that a mis-spelling of some name (not intended by its author or due to his ignorance) is being perpetuated. In the following four names of Australian plants, the specific epithets can be categorized as unintentional "typographic or orthographic errors" and their correction is allowed under Article 82 of the International Code of Botanical Nomenclature (Stockholm, 1950). In each instance, cogent reasons are advanced for emendation of the spelling now in use:

ASCOMYCETES.

HYPOCREACEÆ.

Cordyceps menesteridis F. Muell. & Berk. in *Gdnrs' Chron.* ser. 2, 10: 791, fig. 130 (1878).

M. J. Berkeley remarked (*l.c.*) "Baron Müller has lately sent us . . . from the banks of the Yarra near Melbourne, gathered by Mr. C. French on the caterpillar of *Menesteris laticollis* Boisd." There is no such insect genus as "*Menesteris*"; but a tenebrionid beetle called *Meneristes laticollis* Boisd. does occur in Victoria, and this is clearly the host species intended by Berkeley (who probably misconstrued a handwritten note sent to him by Baron von Mueller). Incidentally, the larva parasitized by this fungus is more likely referable to the widespread genus *Lepispilus* than to *Meneristes*. The specific epithet, however, should be corrected to read **meneristitis**.

A. S. Olliff (one-time Government Entomologist of New South Wales, who should have known better) also erroneously renders the spelling of the supposed host-insect as "*Menesteres laticollis*", in *Agric. Gaz. N.S.W.* 6: 407 (1895).

The spelling of *Isaria oncopterae* McAlpine (another entomogenous fungus in the family *Hypocreaceæ*) by its author in *Proc. roy. Soc. Vict.* n. ser. 7: 165 (1895) was deliberate and excusable; but the lepidopterous genus concerned is now spelt *Oncopera*—to conform with F. Walker's original rendering (1856)—and the name of its fungal parasite should be amended to read **Isaria oncooperæ**. E. Meyrick [*Proc. Linn. Soc. N.S.W.* ser. 2, 4: 1124 (1890)] was not justified in changing *Oncopera* to "*Oncoptera*".

HEPATICÆ.

PORELLACEÆ.

Porella cranfordii Steph. in *Hedwigia* 28: 270 (1889).

Type of this Queensland and northern New South Wales hepatic was collected by one A. R. Crawford, who botanized in the New England district (N.S.W.), not by "Cranford"—as F. Stephani erroneously transcribed the proper name. This author later (1910) made the combination "*Madotheca cranfordii*", but the Linnean genus *Porella* has priority over *Madotheca* and must stand. Obviously the specific epithet should be corrected to **crawfordii**.

ANGIOSPERMÆ.

MYRTACEÆ.

Tristania lactiflua F. Muell. *Fragm. Phyt. Aust.* 1: 82 (1859).

In the original description of this North Australian tree, the author specifies "*petala alba*", and it is evident that his intention was to choose an epithet meaning "with milk-white flowers", not "milk-flowing"; apparently the substitution of "u" for the handwritten "or" of the manuscript was a mistake in type. Mueller himself amended the spelling to "*lactiflora*" in his *Syst. Census Aust. Plants* 1882, and so it also appears in the *Second Syst. Census* of 1889; but Bentham (1867) and Ewart (1917) both retained "*lactiflua*". The epithet should certainly appear as **lactiflora**.

GOODENIACEÆ.

Scævola brookeana F. Muell. in *Vict. Nat.* 1: 122 (1884).

This West Australian shrub was named in honour of its discoverer, Miss Sarah T. C. Brooks, who died at Norseman Hospital in September, 1928; but Mueller invariably mis-spelt the surname as "Brooke". He later honoured the same lady in his description of *Hakea brookeana* (1886). C. A. Gardner in *Enumeratio Plantarum Australiæ Occidentalis*: 31 (1930) had already corrected the latter name, to read *H. brooksiana*, but he inconsistently retained *Scævola* "*brookeana*" in the same work. This epithet should also be spelt **brooksiana**.

REDUCTION OF THE LICHEN GENUS BIBBYA J. H. Willis

In *The Victorian Naturalist* 73: 125 (1956) I erected a new genus of lichens, *Bibbya*, the single species of which was known to me only from three localities in the Victorian alps, all at or above 5,500 ft. (= 1700 m.)—viz. Bogong High Plains, Mts. Hotham and Stirling. This action was prompted by Dr. Carroll W. Dodge (St. Louis, Missouri) who received Bogong material from the late Mr. P. N. S. Bibby in 1953, pronounced it as representing an undescribed genus of the *Usneaceae*, and suggested that the latter botanist publish a diagnosis. Mr. Bibby did not live to follow up this suggestion, but I subsequently took pleasure in naming the genus after him.

More recently, Dr. Rolf Santesson (Keeper of the Herbarium, Botaniska Museet, Uppsala, Sweden) requested permission to examine some material of *Bibbya muelleri*, which I sent him. He found this to differ in no respect from the South American species *Toninia bullata*, specimens of which he had collected himself on Isla Navarino, Tierra del Fuego (at 20-50 m.) in 1940. Having inspected Dr. Santesson's collection, I agree that our Victorian lichen is identical, that the structure is not inconsistent with subfruticose members of *Toninia* (a genus of about 100 species in the family *Bacidiaceæ*) and that I erred in giving this Australian (and Andean) representative distinct generic rank. Following is the essential synonymy of *Toninia bullata*, which is now known from Peru (TYPE locality being Tacora, above 14,000 ft., on earth and amongst mosses), Patagonia, Tierra del Fuego, Juan Fernandez and north-eastern Victoria: