


**Comment on the proposed conservation of prevailing usage of Termopsidae**

Holmgren, 1911, *Termopsis* Heer, 1849 and *Miotermes* Rosen, 1913 (Insecta, Isoptera)

(Case 3244; see BZN 60: 119–123, 303)

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1. This comment touches on two points arising from our application (BZN 60: 119–123) relating to the proposed conservation of the prevailing usage of Termopsidae Holmgren, 1911, *Termopsis* Heer, 1849 and *Miotermes* Rosen, 1913.

2. First, Dr Alonso-Zarazaga (BZN 60: 303) has provided points of clarification on the proposed conservation of usage of the three names concerned. He has correctly noted that in our application the gender of Termopsis was accidentally and quite erroneously labeled as masculine, when it is indeed feminine. His emendations to our request are valued and we wholeheartedly recommend that they be adopted.

3. Secondly, we have recently discovered that in a short note on termite classification Holmgren (1910, p. 285) made available the subfamily name Stolotermitinae for Stototernes Hagen, 1858 (p. 105), type species by monotypy Hodotermes (Stolotermes) brunneicornis Hagen, 1858 (p. 105). Thus the name Stolotermitinae has priority by one year over the name Termopsidae, which Holmgren proposed as new in his 1911 monograph (p. 35). Accordingly, we propose that, in addition to the proposals put forward in BZN 60: 121, Termopsidae be given precedence over Stolotermitinae whenever their type genera are placed in the same family-group taxon.

4. Our full proposal therefore reads as follows:

The International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature is accordingly asked: (1) to use its plenary power:

(a) to rule that the family-group name Termopsidae Holmgren, 1911 and other family-group names based on Termopsis Heer, 1849 are to be given
precedence over *Stolotermitinae* Holmgren, 1910 and other family-group names based on *Stolotermes* Hagen, 1858 whenever their type genera are placed in the same family-group taxon;

(b) to set aside all previous fixations of type species for the nominal genus *Termopsis* Heer, 1849 and to designate *Termopsis bremii* Heer, 1849 as type species;

(2) to place on the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology the following names:

(a) *Termopsis* Heer, 1849 (gender: feminine), type species by designation in (1)(b) above *Termopsis bremii* Heer, 1849;

(b) *Miotermes* Rosen, 1913 (gender: masculine), type species by original designation *Termopsis procera* Heer, 1849;

(c) *Stolotermes* Hagen, 1858 (gender: masculine), type species by monotypy *Hodotermes (Stolotermes) brunneicornis* Hagen, 1858;

(3) to place on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology the following names:

(a) *bremii* Heer, 1849, as published in the binomen *Termopsis bremii* (specific name of the type species of *Termopsis* Heer, 1849);

(b) *procera* Heer, 1849, as published in the binomen *Termopsis procera* (specific name of the type species of *Miotermes* Rosen, 1913);

(c) *brunneicornis* Hagen, 1858, as published in the binomen *Hodotermes brunneicornis* (specific name of the type species of *Stolotermes* Hagen, 1858);

(4) to place on the Official List of Family-Group Names in Zoology the following names:

(a) *termopsidae* Holmgren, 1911 (type genus *Termopsis* Heer, 1849), with the endorsement that it and other family-group names based on *Termopsis* are to be given precedence over *Stolotermitinae* Holmgren, 1910 and other family-group names based on *Stolotermes* Hagen, 1858 whenever their type genera are placed in the same family-group taxon;

(b) *stolotermitinae* Holmgren, 1910 (type genus *Stolotermes* Hagen, 1858), with the endorsement that it and other family-group names based on *Stolotermes* are not to be given priority over *termopsidae* Holmgren, 1911 and other family-group names based on *Termopsis* Heer, 1849 whenever their type genera are placed in the same family-group taxon.

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Additional reference