

NOTE

Necessary corrections to the Approved Lists of Bacterial Names according to Rule 40d (formerly Rule 46). Request for an Opinion

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According to Rule 40d (formerly Rule 46), the authorship and dates of ten subspecies cited in the Approved Lists of Bacterial Names should be corrected. It is requested that such changes be approved by the Judicial Commission.

Keywords: Bacteriological Code, Approved Lists of Bacterial Names, subspecies, authorship, Request for an Opinion

Rule 40d (formerly Rule 46; see De Vos & Trüper, 2000) of the *Bacteriological Code* (1990 revision) (Lapage *et al.*, 1992) states that ‘The valid publication of a subspecific name which excludes the type of the species automatically creates another subspecies which includes the type and whose name bears the same specific and subspecific epithets as the name of the type. The author of the species name is to be cited as the author of such an automatically created subspecific name.’

Although the intention of the Rule is evident to those who formulated it, there is obviously room for misinterpretation. In order to rectify this, it is necessary to state how the Rule is meant to operate. On the creation of a new species name ‘*Alpha beta*’, the author(s), date of publication and type of the name are fixed, as laid down in the *Bacteriological Code* (1990 revision) (Lapage *et al.*, 1992). However, the subspecies ‘*Alpha beta* subsp. *beta*’ has the same type as the species ‘*Alpha beta*’, but this subspecies name is only used if a second or more subspecies is created. By naming the species ‘*Alpha beta*’ and designating a type, the author of that name is also determining the name of the first subspecies within this species, and also designating the type of that subspecies, ‘*Alpha beta* subsp. *beta*’. Thus the author(s) and date of the species name ‘*Alpha beta*’ and the subspecies name, with the form ‘*Alpha beta* subsp. *beta*’, are always the same.

The authorship and dates of ten automatically created subspecies names cited in the Approved Lists of Bacterial Names (Skerman *et al.*, 1980, 1989) do not conform with Rule 40d and should be corrected.

According to Rule 23a Note 4, the Judicial Commission may correct the Approved Lists. Correction is necessary in order to avoid confusion, and we therefore

request that the author(s) and dates of the subspecies names cited below be changed as follows:

Acetobacter aceti subsp. *aceti* (Pasteur 1864) Beijerinck 1898 **not** (Pasteur 1864) De Ley and Frateur 1974.

Acetobacter pasteurianus subsp. *pasteurianus* (Hansen 1879) Beijerinck and Folpmers 1916 **not** (Hansen 1879) De Ley and Frateur 1974.

Bacteroides melaninogenicus subsp. *melaninogenicus* (Oliver and Wherry 1921) Roy and Kelly 1939 **not** (Oliver and Wherry 1921) Holdeman and Moore 1970.

Campylobacter fetus subsp. *fetus* (Smith and Taylor 1919) Sebald and Véron 1963 **not** (Smith and Taylor 1919) Véron and Chatelain 1973.

Mycobacterium chelonae subsp. *chelonae* corrig. Bergey, Harrison, Breed, Hammer and Huntoon 1923 **not** (Bergey, Harrison, Breed, Hammer and Huntoon 1923) Kubica, Baess, Gordon, Jenkins, Kwapinski, McDurmont, Pattyn, Saito, Silcox, Stanford, Takeya and Tsukamura 1972.

Propionibacterium freudenreichii subsp. *freudenreichii* van Niel 1928 **not** (van Niel 1928) Moore and Holdeman 1970.

Selenomonas ruminantium subsp. *ruminantium* (Certes 1889) Wenyon 1926 **not** Bryant 1974.

Streptovorticillium fervens subsp. *fervens* (De Boer, Dietz, Evans and Michaels 1960) Locci, Baldacci and Petrolini Baldan 1969 **not** Baldacci and Locci 1974.

Veillonella parvula subsp. *parvula* (Veillon and Zuber 1898) Prévot 1933 **not** Rogosa 1965.

Zymomonas mobilis subsp. *mobilis* (Lindner 1928) Kluver and van Niel 1936 **not** (Lindner 1928) De Ley and Swings 1976.

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References

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