NEW FAMILY AND GENUS NAMES, KIRKAYAKIDAE NOM. NOV. AND KIRKAYAKUS NOM. NOV., FOR THE MILLIPEDES (DIPLOPODA: CHORDEUMATIDA)

Hüseyin Özdikmen*

* Gazi Üniversitesi, Fen-Edebiyat Fakültesi, Biyoloji Bölümü, 06500 Ankara / Türkiye, e-mails: ozdikmen@gazi.edu.tr and hakandemir@gazi.edu.tr


ABSTRACT: A junior homonym was detected amongst the millipedes genus group names and the following replacement name is proposed: Kirkayakus nom. nov. for Altajella Gulička, 1972. Accordingly, new combination is herein proposed for the species currently included in this genus. Kirkayakus pallida (Gulička, 1972) comb. nov. In addition, I propose the replacement name Kirkayakidae new name for the family name Altajellidae.

KEY WORDS: nomenclatural change, homonymy, replacement name, Diplopoda, Altajellidae, Altajella.

Remarks on nomenclatural change

The name Altajella was proposed by Kulkov (1962) for a brachiopod genus from Altai Mountains (Brachiopoda: Articulata: Spiriferida: ). The genus Altajella Kulkov, 1962 is not extant. It was assigned to Spiriferida by Sepkoski (2002). It is currently a valid generic name in Brachiopoda (e. g. Doescher, 1981; Sepkoski, 2002; Tapanila, 2007).

The Palaearctic genus Altajella was described by Gulička (1972) with the type species Altajella pallida Gulička, 1972 by original designation from Altai Mountains in Diplopoda (Chordeumatida: Craspedosomatidea: Neotactrosomatoidea: Altajellidae). The name is currently used as a valid generic name in Diplopoda as the type genus of the family Altajellidae Mikhailova & Golovatch, 2000. (Shelley et al., 2000; Shelley, 2003; Golovatch & Wytwer, 2003; Sierwald et al., 2006). The family includes four genera as Altajella Gulička, 1972; Elongeuma Golovatch, 1982; Tarbagataja Golovatch & Wytwer, 2003 and Teleckophoron Gulička, 1972.

However, the name Altajella Gulička, 1972 is invalid under the rule of homonymy, being a junior homonym of Altajella Kulkov, 1962. Under the International Code of Zoological Nomenclature (ICZN 1999) it must be rejected and replaced. In accordance with article 60 of the International Code of Zoological Nomenclature, fourth edition (1999), I propose to substitute the junior homonym Altajella Gulička, 1972 for the nomen novum Kirkayakus.

As a result of this, Altajella Gulička, 1972 is replaced with Kirkayakus new name. The following new combination is established: Kirkayakus pallidus (Gulička, 1972) new combination.
In addition to this, I herein propose the replacement name Kirkayakidae new name for the family name Altajellidae because its type genus *Altajella* Gulička, 1972 is invalid and the type genus of a family-group name must be valid.

**SYSTEMATICS**

Order Chordeumatida  
Family Kirkayakidae new name

Altajellidae Mikhaljova & Golovatch, 2000  
**Type genus.** — *Kirkayakus* new name.  
**Remarks.** — The name *Altajella* has been used in Diplopoda as a stem for a family-group name, and should be automatically replaced with the new name.

Genus *Kirkayakus* new name  

**Type species.** — *Altajella pallida* Gulička, 1972 by original designation.

**Etymology.** — from the Turkish word “kirkayak” meaning millipede. It is masculine in gender.

**Species account and distribution.** — Only one species as the type; known from Altai Mountains.

The following new combination is proposed and the species is removed from *Altajella*:

*Kirkayakus pallidus* (Gulička, 1972) **new combination**  
Syn.: *Altajella pallida* Gulička, 1972

**LITERATURE CITED**


