

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

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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 Palearctic 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: Neoatractosomatoidea: Altajellidae). The name is currently used as a valid generic name in Diplopoda as the type genus of the family Altajellidae Mikhaljova & 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; *Tarbagataya* 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

*Altajella* Gulička, 1972, junior homonym of *Altajella* Kulkov, 1962.

**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

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