NOMENCLATURAL AND TAXONOMIC REVIEWS

VIERHOVEN, W. Aerobic sporeforming nitrate-reducing bacteria. Thesis. pp. 160. Pl. I. Uitgeverij Waltman-Delft, Netherlands. As a result of his studies of nitrate-reducing properties of various spore producing bacteria, the author concludes that the spore producing aerobic bacteria of the genus Bacillus should be placed in two principal groups, those which are strictly dependent upon atmospheric oxygen and are aerobic, and those which when supplied with suitable hydrogen acceptors, other than oxygen, will grow under anaerobic conditions. The first group of species he would retain in the genus Bacillus. He advocates the use of the generic name Aerobacillus Donker for those species which use carbohydrates anaerobically in a 2,3-butanediol fermentation and the generic name Zymobacillus Kluyver and van Niel for those species which utilize carbohydrates anaerobically with an ethyl-alcohol-acetone fermentation. For those species which can utilize nitrate under anaerobic conditions as a hydrogen acceptor with production of free nitrogen gas he proposes the new generic name Denitrobacillus with the type species Denitrobacillus licheniformis (Weigmann) Vierhoven. This species is closely related to the Ford strain of Bacillus subtilis. The species name Bacillus nitroxus Beijerinck and Minkman is regarded as a synonym of D. licheniformis.

GENERIC NAMES OF FUNGI PROPOSED FOR CONSERVATION. Dr. Donald P. Rogers, secretary of the Special Committee for Fungi designated by the Stockholm Botanical Congress has issued under date of December 23, 1952 a report of the action of this Committee relative to nomina generica conservanda, and the related nomina generica rejicienda.

The Committee approved five resolutions which are of general microbiological interest and of special concern to the Committee on Medical Mycology of the International Association of Microbiologists.