Opinion 42

Conservation of the Specific Epithet "*phenylpyruvica*" in the Name *Moraxella phenylpyruvica* Bøvre and Henriksen

Editorial Secretary (for the Judicial Commission of the
International Committee on Systematic Bacteriology)

The specific epithet "*phenylpyruvica*" in the name *Moraxella phenylpyruvica* Bøvre and Henriksen 1967 is conserved against the specific epithet "*polymorpha*" in the name of the earlier objective synonym *Moraxella polymorpha* Flamm 1957 and against the specific epithets in all other earlier objective synonyms. The neotype strain of *Moraxella phenylpyruvica* is 2863 (= ATCC 23333 = NCTC 10526).

The name *Moraxella polymorpha* was validly published by Flamm (4) for a species which contained a single strain, 1078/55. This strain is therefore the type strain by monotypy. Bøvre and Henriksen (5) studied a group of strains (referred to as the "752/52 group") which they believed constituted a distinct entity. They regarded strain 1078/55 as belonging to this group and recognized that the correct name should be *Moraxella polymorpha* Flamm. However, because of the possibility of confusing this name with *Mima polymorpha* De Bord, which name is regarded (5) as a synonym of *Moraxella lwoffii*, Bøvre and Henriksen (1) proposed a new name, *Moraxella phenylpyruvica* (sic), for this species. These authors also proposed that strain 2863 be accepted as a neotype to replace the type strain, 1078/55, because the latter is the only strain in the species which does not split urea.

Because *Moraxella phenylpyruvica* Bøvre and Henriksen is a later objective synonym of *Moraxella polymorpha* Flamm, and because the latter name is liable to be confused with *Mima polymorpha* De Bord (2), an apparently closely related but different organism, Bøvre and Henriksen requested that the Judicial Commission conserve the specific epithet "*phenylpyruvica*" against "*polymorpha*" and that a neotype strain, 2863, replace the unsuitable type strain, 1078/55. The Judicial Commission (3) unanimously approved these requests.

Opinion 42. The specific epithet "*phenylpyruvica*" in the name *Moraxella phenylpyruvica* Bøvre and Henriksen 1967 is conserved against the specific epithet "*polymorpha*" in the name of the earlier objective synonym *Moraxella polymorpha* Flamm 1957 and against the specific epithets in all other earlier objective synonyms. The neotype strain of *Moraxella phenylpyruvica* is 2863 (= ATCC 23333 = NCTC 10526).

LITERATURE CITED

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