Conservation of the Generic Name *Lactobacillus* Beijerinck with a New Type Species

Request for an Opinion

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The Judicial Commission of the International Committee on Nomenclature of Bacteria is requested to issue an Opinion conserving the generic name *Lactobacillus* Beijerinck with a new type species, *Lactobacillus delbrueckii* Beijerinck. The species previously regarded as the type, *Lactobacillus caucasicus*, cannot be recognized from descriptions, and no authentic cultures of this organism are extant. It is proposed that *Lactobacillus caucasicus* Beijerinck be placed on the list of rejected names. ATCC 9649 (= NCDO 213) is designated as the neotype strain of *L. delbrueckii* Beijerinck.

The reasons for requesting conservation of the generic name *Lactobacillus* Beijerinck 1901 were presented in a previous publication (2). Furthermore, because *Lactobacillus caucasicus* Beijerinck 1901, the type species of *Lactobacillus*, cannot now be recognized from descriptions and because no cultures of this organism are known to be extant, it is proposed that the name *Lactobacillus caucasicus* Beijerinck be placed on the list of *nomina rejicienda* as a *nomen dubium* and that *Lactobacillus delbrueckii* Beijerinck 1901, one of the species included in this genus by Beijerinck in his original publication, be established as the type species of the genus *Lactobacillus*. It is here proposed that ATCC 9649 (NCDO 213) be the neotype strain of *L. delbrueckii* Beijerinck 1901. A description of this strain was recently published (3).

This request is for the Judicial Commission of the International Committee on Systematic

Bacteriology to issue an Opinion conserving the generic name *Lactobacillus* Beijerinck 1901, with *Lactobacillus delbrueckii* as the type species, and placing *Lactobacillus caucasicus* on the list of *nomina rejicienda* as a *nomen dubium*.

LITERATURE CITED

1. Beijerinck, M. W. 1901. Sur les ferments lactiques de l'industrie. Arch. Néerl. Sci. Exact. Nat. Sér. 2 6:212–243.
2. Hansen, P. A. 1964. Note on the conservation of the name *Lactobacillus*. Int. Bull. Bacteriol. Nomen. Taxon. 14:39–40.
3. Hansen, P. A. 1968. Type strains of *Lactobacillus* species—a report by the Taxonomic Subcommittee on Lactobacilli and Closely Related Organisms—a subcommittee of the International Committee on Nomenclature of Bacteria of the International Association of Microbiological Societies. American Type Culture Collection, Rockville, Md.