International Committee on Systematic Bacteriology Subcommittee on the Taxonomy of *Pasteurella*, *Yersinia*, and *Francisella*

Minutes of the Meeting, 13 April 1972

Malmö, Sweden

Minute 1. *Call to order.* The meeting was called to order by the chairman, W. Knapp.

Minute 2. *Record of attendance.* Members present were T. W. Burrows, I. V. Domaradskij, W. Frederiksen, S. D. Henriksen, W. Knapp, N. S. Mair, I. L. Martinevskij, H. Mollaret, S. Namioka, E. Thal, and S. Winblad.

Minute 3. *Mexico City meeting.* The chairman presented a brief report on the meeting of the subcommittee held during the International Congress for Microbiology at Mexico City in August 1970.

Minute 4. *Communications from members unable to attend and from research workers in the field.* The chairman reported on letters received from Professor Olsuf'ev and Dr. Timofeeva, both of the USSR, concerning the taxonomy of *Francisella tularensis* and *Pasteurella multocida*. The members of the subcommittee present agreed with the work of Professor Olsuf'ev and his co-workers on the taxonomy of *Francisella* but rejected the proposal of Dr. Timofeeva (Irkutsk) to transfer *Pasteurella multocida* to the genus *Yersinia* under the name *Yersinia pasteurella*. In addition, the members present rejected Professor Olsuf'ev's proposal to divide *Francisella tularensis* into three subspecies or races on the basis of geographical distribution.

Minute 5. *Report by W. Frederiksen.* W. Frederiksen reported on his studies on the genera *Pasteurella* and *Actinobacillus*.

Minute 6. *Reference strains for Yersinia pestis.* T. W. Burrows, I. V. Domaradskij, and I. C. Martinevskij, members of the subcommittee's working group, will propose reference strains for *Yersinia pestis*.

Minute 7. *Reference strains for Yersinia enterocolitica.* The subcommittee accepted the following reference strains for *Yersinia enterocolitica* (strain designations are those of the Pasteur Institute, Paris): Ye 39 (= Daniels 905) and Ye 62 (= Becht 18) from animals, Ye 160 (=Hassig 2533/24) and the indole-positive strains Ye 373 (= Ahvonen 246/68) and Ye 161 (=Bacterium enterocoliticum 33114 of Schleifstein) from man. Ye 39, Ye 62, Ye 160, and Ye

373 (an indole-positive strain) had previously been accepted as reference strains by the subcommittee at its meeting in Mexico City. This decision was confirmed, and Ye 161, another indole-positive strain, was added to the list.

Strains whose biochemical characteristics are in good agreement with those of these reference strains are to be considered as belonging to *Yersinia enterocolitica*.

Minute 8. *Use of standard methods in characterization of Yersiniae.* The subcommittee accepted the report of the ICSB Subcommittee on the Taxonomy of the *Enterobacteriaceae* and suggested applying standard methods (such as those used by Kauffmann [2] and Cowan and Steel [1] for the *Enterobacteriaceae*) to the cultural and biochemical characterization of the yersiniae.

More information with respect to antigenic structure, genetics, DNA homology, GC content of the DNA, etc., is needed for *Yersinia enterocolitica*.

Minute 9. *Status of the subcommittee.* The members present were of the opinion that the division of the subcommittee into two subcommittees, one on *Francisella*, the other on *Pasteurella*, was premature, and it was decided to leave the present subcommittee intact.

Minute 10. *Membership of the subcommittee.* The membership of the subcommittee is as previously published (3), with the exception that the name of S. Winblad, Malmö, Sweden, had been inadvertently omitted from the list.

1. Cowan, S. T., and K. J. Steel. 1965. Manual for the identification of medical bacteria. Cambridge University Press.
2. Kauffmann, F. 1954. *Enterobacteriaceae*, 2nd ed. Ejnar Munksgaard, Copenhagen.
3. Mollaret, H. H., and W. Knapp. 1971. Report (1966-1970) of the Subcommittee on *Pasteurella*, *Yersinia*, and *Francisella* to the International Committee on Nomenclature of Bacteria. Int. J. Syst. Bacteriol. 21:157.

H. H. Mollaret, Secretary
W. Knapp, Chairman