

Changes to Nomenclatural Rules for Fungi

International Commission on the Taxonomy of Fungi (ICTF)

and

Nomenclature Committee for Fungi (NCF)

International Code of Nomenclature for algae, fungi, and plants

Now = ICN

= Melbourne Code (2012)

www.iapt-taxon.org/nomen/main.php

Other codes are:

International Code of Zoological Nomenclature (= ICZN 4th ed. 2000)

International Code of Nomenclature of Bacteria (= Bacteriological Code 1990)

International Code of Virus Classification and Nomenclature (August 2002)

Electronic Publication

- Starting in 2012 names are effectively published in electronic format in the absence of printed hard copy, but only in publications having a **PDF format** and only in **books or journals** having **ISBN or ISSN numbers**.

Language of Diagnosis

- **Starting in 2012** names are valid with either **English or Latin** description or diagnosis.
- Between 1935 – 2011 (inclusive) a Latin diagnosis or description was required. Prior to 1935 any language could have been used.

Cultures as Types

Metabolically living cultures cannot be type specimens. However, metabolically inactive cultures can be type specimens. It is now recommended that authors specify **how the type specimens** (which may be such cultures) are preserved.

Governance of the Code

A new subcommittee on fungal nomenclature is being set up under a Special Committee on the Governance of the Code.

Should changes to the ICN pertaining only to fungi be discussed and **voted on** at IMCs (every 4 years) rather than at Int. Botanical Congresses (every 6 years)?

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Registration of Fungal Names

- **Beginning in 2013**, to be **validly published**, all new fungal names must be **registered** electronically.
- The official registries are:
 - MycoBank (Int. Mycol. Assoc.) www.mycobank.org
 - Index Fungorum (U.K./N.Z.) www.indexfungorum.org
 - Fungal Names (China) www.fungalinfo.net/fungalname/fungalname.html

The end of dual nomenclature

CHAPTER VI. NAMES OF FUNGI WITH A PLEOMORPHIC LIFE CYCLE

- **Old Article 59**
- 59.1. In non lichen-forming ascomycetous and basidiomycetous fungi (including *Ustilaginales*) with mitotic asexual morphs (anamorphs) as well as a meiotic sexual morph (teleomorph), the correct name covering the holomorph (i.e., the species in all its morphs) is the earliest legitimate name typified, or epitypified under Art. 59.7, by an element representing the teleomorph, i.e. the morph characterized by the production of asci/ascospores, basidia/basidiospores, teliospores, or other basidium-bearing organs.

The New Article 59

59.1. A name published **prior to 1 January 2013** for a taxon of non-lichen-forming *Ascomycota* and *Basidiomycota*, with the intent or implied intent of applying to or being typified by one particular morph (e.g. anamorph or teleomorph), may be legitimate even if it otherwise would be illegitimate under Art. 52 on account of the protologue including a type (as defined in Art. 52.2) referable to a different morph. If the name is otherwise legitimate, it competes for priority (Art. 11.3 and 11.4; see also Art. 57.2).

Note 1. Except as provided in Art. 59.1, names of fungi with mitotic asexual morphs (anamorphs) as well as a meiotic sexual morph (teleomorph) must conform to the same provisions of this *Code* as all other fungi.

Note 2. Previous editions of this *Code* provided for separate names for mitotic asexual morphs (anamorphs) of certain pleomorphic fungi and required that the name applicable to the whole fungus be typified by a meiotic sexual morph (teleomorph). **Under the current Code, however, all legitimate fungal names are treated equally for the purposes of establishing priority, regardless of the life history stage of the type** (but see Art. 57.2; see also Art. 14.13).

The end of dual nomenclature

This means that **all names have equal priority**, but that names published under old rules would not be declared to be illegitimate or invalid.

Dual names **published** after Jan. 2012 will **both** be considered invalid.

But...

- New Art. 57.2.
 - In pleomorphic fungi (including lichenicolous fungi, but excluding lichen-forming fungi and those fungi traditionally associated with them taxonomically, e.g. *Mycocaliciaceae*), **in cases where**, prior to 1 January 2013, **both teleomorph-typified and anamorph-typified names were widely used for a taxon, an anamorph-typified name that has priority is not to displace the teleomorph name(s)** unless and until a proposal to reject the former under Art. 56.1 or 56.3 or to deal with the latter under Art. 14.1 or 14.13 has been submitted and rejected.

Lists of Protected Names

- **New article 14.13.** In the interest of nomenclatural stability, for organisms treated as fungi (including lichenicolous fungi, but excluding lichen-forming fungi and those fungi traditionally associated with them taxonomically, e.g. *Mycocaliciaceae*), **lists of names** may be submitted to the General Committee, which will refer them to the Nomenclature Committee for Fungi (see Div. [III](#)) for examination by subcommittees established by that Committee in consultation with the General Committee and **appropriate international bodies. Accepted names on these lists**, which become Appendices of the *Code* once reviewed and approved by the Nomenclature Committee for Fungi and the General Committee, are to be listed with their types together with those competing synonyms (including sanctioned names) against which they **are treated as conserved** (see also Art. [56.3](#)).

Lists of Rejected Names

- Art. 56.n. For organisms treated as fungi under this Code, **lists of rejected names** may also be included in the Appendices established under Art. 14.n. Such names are to be treated as though rejected outright under Art. 56.1 and may become eligible for use only by conservation under Art. 14.
- Note: Lichenized fungi exempt (14.n[bis]).

Unofficial Principles of Implementation

- NCF and ICTF collaborating to establish effective committees and working groups
- Maximum participation by mycologists
 - **not** just existing committees and their members
- Open, transparent process
 - Web interfaces for participation
 - building of draft Protected/Rejected lists
- For updates:
 - IMA www.ima-mycology.org
 - ICTF www.fungaltaxonomy.org
- **Target date** for development of first lists: Bangkok IMC, 2014



IMA Fungus

June and December
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