



### **Proposed conservation of the name *Gastrimargus* Saussure, 1884 (Orthoptera: Acrididae: Oedipodinae) threatened by an unused senior homonym**

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*Gastrimargus* Saussure, 1884 includes 23 species of economically important locustine grasshoppers (Acrididae: Oedipodinae: Locustini) distributed throughout Africa, Australia and Southeast Asia (Ritchie, 1982). Whilst reviewing oedipodine genus-group names in the *Orthoptera Species File Online* (Eades & Otte, 2009) we encountered an unused senior homonym—*Gastrimargus* Spix, 1823 used for a genus of Neotropical primates—which has seniority over *Gastrimargus* Saussure, 1884 according to the Principle of Priority (ICZN, 1999: Article 23.1). However, the senior homonym is universally considered as a junior synonym of another genus and has not been used as valid since 1899, thereby qualifying as a *nomen oblitum*. Here we present a case for the ‘automatic’ conservation of *Gastrimargus* Saussure, 1884 following the requirements of Article 23.9.2 of the Code.

#### **Historical use of the senior homonym**

Spix (1823: 39) established the generic name *Gastrimargus* for a group of Neotropical woolly monkeys in the family Atelidae. However, Temminck (1827: XV) recognized *Gastrimargus* Spix, 1823 as a junior synonym of *Lagothrix* Geoffroy, 1812. This was followed by Cuvier in French (1829: 101) and then in English (1831: 68) who described the two genera together under a single heading (“*Lagothrix*, Geoff.–*Gastrimargus*, Spix”). Later, Schinz (1844: 71) again synonymized the two genera and this has been universally accepted by primatologists since (e.g. Elliot, 1913; Fooden, 1963; Groves, 2001). The only post-1899 usage of *Gastrimargus* that we have found that does not unambiguously denote it as a junior synonym of *Lagothrix* is an instance covered by Article 23.9.6 of the Code; Palmer (1904: 291), in an index simply listing generic names in Mammalia includes *Gastrimargus* Spix without reference to *Lagothrix*. The PrimateLit database (<http://primatelit.library.wisc.edu>) that covers all aspects of the Primate literature since 1940 returns zero references for a search on *Gastrimargus*. Additional primate references consulted include: Hoeven (1856), Gray (1870), Forbes (1897), Hill (1962), Hershkovitz (1977), Fleagle (1999), Rylands et al. (2000), Groves (2001), Rylands (2001), Defler (2004), Rylands & Mittermeier (2009).

#### **Reversal of precedence**

Although the name *Gastrimargus* Saussure, 1884 is a junior homonym of *Gastrimargus* Spix, 1823, the latter name is universally considered to be a junior synonym of *Lagothrix* Geoffroy, 1812. As *Gastrimargus* Spix, 1823 has not been used as valid since 1899 it qualifies as a *nomen oblitum* under Article 23.9.1.1 of the Code [with Article 23.9.6 removing Palmer (1904) from consideration]. In contrast, *Gastrimargus* Saussure, 1884 has been in wide usage amongst entomologists since its original description. In order to satisfy the requirements for ‘automatic’ conservation under Article 23.9.2 we include here a list of 25 publications, published by more than 10 authors within the immediately preceding 50 years and encompassing a span of more than 10 years. Supporting references: Baker et al. (1996), Bei-Bienko & Mishchenko (1964), Dang et al. (2008), Dirsh (1963, 1965, 1966, 1970), Fossey & Liebenberg (1991), Goodman (1976), Goodman & Williams (1976), Horn & Rowell (1968), Husband (1995), Jiang & Zheng (1998), Kevan (1966), Key (1986), Khalid & Yousef (1999), Khalid et al. (2008), Ma et al. (2009), Majeed & Aziz (1981), Mestre (1988), Otte (1995), Ritchie (1981, 1982), Rowell (1970), Shumakov (1963).