On two reports associated with James Wood-Mason and Alfred William Alcock published by the Indian Museum and the Indian Marine Survey between 1890 and 1891: implications for malacostracan nomenclature

RONY HUYS¹⁴, MARTYN E. Y. LOW², SAMMY DE GRAVE³, PETER K. L. NG² & PAUL F. CLARK¹

¹Department of Life Sciences, The Natural History Museum, Cromwell Road, London SW7 5BD, United Kingdom. E-mail: r.huys@nhm.ac.uk, p.clark@nhm.ac.uk
²Raffles Museum of Biodiversity Research, Department of Biological Sciences, National University of Singapore, Block S6, Science Drive 2, #03-01, Singapore 117546, Republic of Singapore. E-mail: m.low@me.com, peterng@nus.edu.sg
³Oxford University Museum of Natural History, Parks Road, Oxford, OX1 3PW, United Kingdom. E-mail: sammy.degrave@oum.ox.ac.uk
⁴Corresponding author

Magnolia Press
Auckland, New Zealand

http://dx.doi.org/10.11646/zootaxa.3757.1.1
On two reports associated with James Wood-Mason and Alfred William Alcock published by the Indian Museum and the Indian Marine Survey between 1890 and 1891: implications for malacostracan nomenclature

Zootaxa 3757
78 pp.; 30 cm.
29 Jan. 2014
ISBN 978-1-77557-322-7 (paperback)
Abstract

Two rare documents associated with the Indian Museum and the Indian Marine Survey for the administrative year April 1890 to March 1891 have been examined and found to have nomenclatural consequences for malacostracan crustaceans. Even though they constitute available published works according to the International Code for Zoological Nomenclature, these reports have rarely been cited. Dating these two publications is of importance as they make decapod scientific names available, is reproduced here. Since the appendix is not conclusively attributable to a specific author, the names proposed as new in Anonymous (1891) are evaluated in relation to those already made available in the "Natural History Notes from H.M. Indian Marine Survey Steamer 'Investigator', Commander R.F. Hoskyn, R.N., [late] commanding" .

Available names in Anonymous (1891—published 25 August) ................................................................. 19
  Glyphocrangon caecus Wood-Mason in Anon., 1891 (25 August): priority over G. caeca Wood-Mason in Wood-Mason & Alcock, 1891g (1 November) ................................................................. 19
  Glyphocrangon sculptus var. caecens Anon., 1891 (25 August): priority over G. caecens Wood-Mason in Wood-Mason & Alcock, 1891g (1 November) ......................................................... 19
  Psalidopus mirabilis Wood-Mason in Wood-Mason & Alcock, 1892a, and P. mirabilis Wood-Mason, 1891 and P. huxleyi/P. spiniventris Wood-Mason in Wood-Mason & Alcock, 1892a, respectively . ................................................................. 20
  Psopheticus crepitans Anon., 1891: a senior subjective synonym of P. stridulans Wood-Mason, 1892a ................................. 22

Nomina nuda in Anonymous (1891—published 25 August) ................................................................. 23
  Stomatopoda ........................................................................................................................................... 23
  Astacidea .................................................................................................................................................. 23
  Brachyura ............................................................................................................................................... 24

Names in Anonymous (1891) proposed as new but already made available in the “Natural History Notes from H.M. Indian Marine Survey Steamer 'Investigator'” ................................................................. 24
  Lophogastrida ........................................................................................................................................... 24
  Stomatopoda ........................................................................................................................................... 24
  Astacidea .................................................................................................................................................. 25
  Caridea ...................................................................................................................................................... 25
  Anomura .................................................................................................................................................. 25
  Brachyura ............................................................................................................................................... 26

Names in Anonymous (1891) attributed to J. Wood-Mason but not proposed as new ................................................................. 27
  Lophogastrida ........................................................................................................................................... 27
  Dendrobranchiata ................................................................................................................................... 28
  Caridea ...................................................................................................................................................... 28
  Brachyura ............................................................................................................................................... 29

Acknowledgments ...................................................................................................................................... 29

References .................................................................................................................................................. 29

Appendix 1 ................................................................................................................................................. 34
Appendix 2 .................................................................................................................................................. 40
Appendix 3 .................................................................................................................................................. 77
Introduction

The Report of the Superintendent for the year April 1890 to March 1891 in the *Indian Museum Annual Report* (IMAR; Indian Museum 1891) has rarely (if ever) been cited, but its discovery during the current study reveals it has some nomenclatural consequences for malacostracan crustaceans. Likewise, the contemporary *Administration Report of the Indian Marine [Survey]* (ARIM) for the Official Year April 1890 to March 1891, published by The Government Central Press in Bombay, India (Indian Marine [Survey] 1891), has largely been ignored in post-19th century malacostracan literature. Appendix No. XIII in this report is of particular interest to carcinologists because it makes a number of decapod names available. This Appendix has seldom been cited, although one recent example is Castro (2007). Only a few copies of these two reports were found during the course of the present study. Copies of IMAR were located in the General Library of the Natural History Museum, London (NHM) at call number S 1917a and in the British Library (BL) at call number ST534. All copies examined were hard bound in a standard light beige coloured cover with title details printed on the front cover and spine, including a volume number on the latter. The ARIM reports are listed in the holdings of three English libraries. The series held by the General Library, NHM (call number S 1907a) and the Oxford University Bodleian Library (call number IND V5) are both incomplete while the BL has two complete sets of the reports listed under call numbers L/MIL/17/9/417–435 and V/24/3040–3042. All early ARIM copies seen were bound in thin blue paper wrappers.

Examination of these publications revealed a number of discrete issues which require further consideration. The first is related to the nature of the reports themselves: do they constitute published works according to the Code (ICZN 1999), who is (are) the author(s), what are their dates of publication and which of the two reports has priority? The second problem revolves around principles of nomenclature such as availability of the scientific names listed, attribution of correct authorship to taxa, dates of availability, precedence, typification and prevailing usage. The purpose of this study is to reproduce Appendix No. XIII of the *Administration Report of the Indian Marine* for the Official Year 1890–91 (see Appendix 1), resolve the issues with regard to both this appendix and the IMAR for the year April 1890 to March 1891, and the nomenclatural implications therein, and provide an insight into the decisions taken. In addition, the list of *Investigator* stations for the period 1884–1913 was discovered in the library of the Natural History Museum (call no. 79 o C) and this rare document is also reproduced here for the future benefit of the scientific community.

“Glyphocrangon investigatoris, W.-M., var. nov. andamanensis” and to the specimen illustrated by Wood-Mason & Alcock (1894) in their Plate VI (Figs. 2, 2a, 2b). Since Wood-Mason & Alcock’s (1891g) work does not ambiguously reveal that the name andamanensis was proposed for an infrasubspecific entity, it has subspecific rank from its original publication (ICZN Art. 45.6.4) and consequently is regulated by the Code. Alcock (1901: 127) did not recognize the separate identity of this subspecies and synonymised it with Glyphocrangon investigatoris. Komai (2004) reinstated the taxon and assigned it full specific rank as G. andamanensis. Authorship must be attributed to Wood-Mason in Wood-Mason & Alcock (1891g).

**Brachyura**

*Echinoplax pungens* (family Inachidae)

The work of Wood-Mason & Alcock (1891c: 259—published 1 March) contains a brief differential diagnosis of the new species *Echinoplax pungens*, making the name available and assigning its authorship to J. Wood-Mason. Station 56 was designated as the type locality. Anonymous (1891: 56) cited “*Echinoplax pungens*, Wood-Mason, from Station 115” but this record was not dealt with until Alcock (1894c: 400). Doflein (1904: 76) relegated *Echinoplax Miers, 1886* to a junior subjective synonym of *Pleistacantha Miers, 1879* and synonymised *E. pungens* with *Echinoplax moseleyi* Miers, 1886. Guinot & Richer de Forges (1982: 1104) reinstated *E. pungens* as a valid species, a course of action recently endorsed by Ahyong & Ng (2007: 67). Consequently, the currently valid name of the species is *Pleistacantha pungens* (Wood-Mason in Wood-Mason & Alcock, 1891c).

**Acknowledgments**

The librarians at The Natural History Museum (London), especially Paul Cooper, and the African and Pacific Collection, British Library (London) helped greatly in obtaining copies of the *Administration Report* and are gratefully acknowledged. Antonia Moon, Curator of the Indian Office Records at the British Library provided invaluable assistance in tracking down additional information on the ARIM reports. Shane T. Ahyong (Australian Museum, Sydney) and Chan Tin-Yam (National Taiwan Ocean University, Keelung) provided valuable background information on some of the *nomina nuda*. Andrew Polaszek and David Notton (The Natural History Museum, London) commented on an earlier draft of the manuscript. The authors would like to thank Alain Crosnier who initiated this study when he enquired about the availability of the two Indian reports and hinted that they may contain unresolved nomenclatural issues.

**References**


http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/00222939408677694


http://dx.doi.org/10.1163/156854072x00426


http://dx.doi.org/10.5479/si.00362936129.i


http://dx.doi.org/10.1163/156854069x00529


http://dx.doi.org/10.1038/018053a0


http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/00222939109460573

Wood-Mason, J. & Alcock, A. (1891b) XXII.—Natural history notes from H.M. Indian Marine Survey Steamer ‘Investigator,’ Commander R.F. Hoskyn, R.N., commanding.—No. 21. Note on the results of the last season’s deep-sea dredging. Annals and Magazine of Natural History, ser. 6, 7 (38), 186–202, fig. 4. [1 February 1891, for date of publication see Evenhuis (2003)]
http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/00222939109460596

Wood-Mason, J. & Alcock, A. (1891c) XXVII.—Natural history notes from H.M. Indian Marine Survey Steamer ‘Investigator,’ Commander R.F. Hoskyn, R.N., commanding.—No. 21. Note on the results of the last season’s deep-sea dredging. Annals and Magazine of Natural History, ser. 6, 7 (39), 258–272, fig. 5. [1 March 1891, for date of publication see Evenhuis (2003)]
http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/00222939109460605


http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/00222939109460385


Wood-Mason, J. & Alcock, A. (1892b) LII.—Natural history notes from H.M. Indian Marine Survey Steamer ‘Investigator,’ Commander R.F. Hoskyn, R.N., commanding.—Series II., No. 1. On the results of deep-sea dredging during the season 1890–91. Annals and Magazine of Natural History, ser. 6, 7 (38), 186–202, fig. 4. [1 February 1891, for date of publication see Evenhuis (2003)]
http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/00222939109460573

http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/00222939109460407

http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/00222939109460435

Wood-Mason, J. & Alcock, A. (1891g) XLVII.—Natural history notes from H.M. Indian Marine Survey Steamer ‘Investigator,’ Commander R.F. Hoskyn, R.N., commanding.—Series II., No. 1. On the results of deep-sea dredging during the season 1890–91. Annals and Magazine of Natural History, ser. 6, 8 (47), 353–362, fig. 10. [1 November 1891, for date of publication see Evenhuis (2003)]
http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/00222939109460455

http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/00222939208677319

Wood-Mason, J. (1892b) LI.—Natural history notes from H.M. Indian Marine Survey Steamer ‘Investigator,’ Commander R. F. Hoskyn, R.N., commanding.—Series II., No. 1. On the results of deep-sea dredging during the season 1890–91. Annals and Magazine of Natural History, ser. 6, 9 (53), 358–370, figs. 1–6. [1 May 1892, for date of publication see Evenhuis (2003)]
http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/00222939208677337

http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/00222939308677485