

## Correspondence

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# ***Isaura* Lamouroux, in Audouin, Bourdon, de Candolle, d'Aubebard de Féruccac, Deshayes, Deslongchamps, É. Geoffroy Saint-Hilaire, I. Geoffroy Saint-Hilaire, Guérin, Guillemin, de Jussieu, Kunth, Delafosse, Lamouroux, Latreille, Prévost, Richard & Bory de Saint-Vincent, 1826, an available name and objective synonym of *Isaurus* Gray, 1828: reversal of precedence (Cnidaria: Anthozoa: Hexacorallia)**

MARTYN E. Y. LOW<sup>1,3</sup> & JAMES DAVIS REIMER<sup>2</sup><sup>1</sup>Department of Marine and Environmental Sciences, Graduate School of Engineering and Science, University of the Ryukyus, 1 Senbaru, Nishihara, Okinawa 903-0213, Japan.

Email: m.low@me.com

<sup>2</sup>Molecular Invertebrate Systematics and Ecology Laboratory, Rising Star Program, Trans-disciplinary Organization for Subtropical Island Studies, University of the Ryukyus, 1 Senbaru, Nishihara, Okinawa 903-0213, Japan; Marine Biodiversity Research Program, Institute of Biogeosciences, Japan Agency for Marine-Earth Science and Technology (JAMSTEC), 2-15 Natsushima, Yokosuka, Kanagawa 237-0061, Japan.

Email: jreimer@sci.u-ryukyu.ac.jp

<sup>3</sup>Corresponding author

Savigny (1811: pl. 2, figs. 1–4, caption) presented four species of zoanthids which he referred to as “*Isaures fixées*” in French (not Latin) in his work on cnidarians from Egypt. Audouin (1826: 229–231) later wrote the text to accompany Savigny’s (1811: pl. 2) plates, when the latter’s health failed (see Sherborn 1897: 287).

Audouin (1826: 229) wrote that “*Les genre Isaure, que M. Savigny divise en Isaures libres et en Isaures fixes, a grand rapports avec les Actinies. Les espèces fixes avoisinant beaucoup les Zoanthes; et toutes se rapprochent tellement du genre Palythoé, Palythoa, de M. Lamouroux...*” [“The genus Isaure, which M. Savigny divided into ‘free’ Isaures and ‘fixed’ Isaures, have a general relationship with the sea anemones. The ‘fixed’ Isaures are very much akin to the zoanthids, and are closely related to the genus Palythoé, *Palythoa*, of Lamouroux.”].

Audouin (1826: 229, 230) did not Latinise the French vernacular name “Isaure” but provided Latin names for all four species figured by Savigny (1811: pl. 2, figs. 1–4), all of which were assigned to the genus *Palythoa* Lamouroux, 1816 (Table 1). By bibliographic reference all four names are available (Article 12.2.7 of the International Code of Zoological Nomenclature, hereafter the Code; ICZN 1999). It is clear that Audouin (1826: 229, 230) considered Savigny’s name “Isaure” to be synonymous with *Palythoa* Lamouroux, 1816.

The Latin name *Isaura* was first used by Lamouroux in an entry on page 23 of a natural history dictionary (Lamouroux, in Audouin, Bourdon, de Candolle, d’Aubebard de Féruccac, Deshayes, Deslongchamps, É. Geoffroy Saint-Hilaire, I. Geoffroy Saint-Hilaire, Guérin, Guillemin, de Jussieu, Kunth, Delafosse, Lamouroux, Latreille, Prévost, Richard & Bory de Saint-Vincent 1826). The explanation accompanying the name *Isaura* is as follows:

“*Isaure. Isaura. Polyp. Genre de l’ordre des Actinaires, dans la division des Polypiers sarcoïdes, plus ou moins irritable, sans axe central, proposé par Savigny qui en a figuré plusieurs espèces (Pl. 2, Polypes, HN, Zoologie [= Savigny 1811: pl. 2]) dans le grand ouvrage sur l’Egypte. Nous ne faisons qu’indiquer ce genre, quoi qu’il mérite d’être adopté, Savigny n’en ayant pas encore donné la description. (Lam..X.)*” [*Isaura. Isaura. Polyps. Genus of the order of sea anemones, in the group of ‘polypiers sarcoïdes’ [= colonies with tumorous growths that resemble sarcomas], more or less irritable, without a central axis, and proposed by Savigny [1811: pl. 2] who gave figures of many species from his great work on Egypt. We do not do more than give a notice of this genus, which deserves to be adopted, as Savigny has not yet given a description (Lamouroux)”.*]

The name *Isaura* and an explanation identical to the one above also appears on page 463 of a work by Lamouroux, Bory de Saint-Vincent & Deslongchamps which has the date “1824” printed on the title-page (the imprint date).