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## Simple rules on adjectival endings in zoological nomenclature and their use in scale insect names (Hemiptera: Sternorrhyncha: Coccoidea), with some corrections to combinations in common use

GIUSEPPINA PELLIZZARI<sup>1</sup> & DOUGLAS J. WILLIAMS<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>University of Padova, Dipartimento di Agronomia, Animali, Alimenti, Risorse Naturali e Ambiente DAFNAE, viale dell'Università 16, 35020 Legnaro, Italy. E-mail: giuseppina.pellizzari@unipd.it

<sup>2</sup>The Natural History Museum, Department of Life Sciences (Entomology), London SW7 5BD, UK

### Table of contents

Abstract . . . . .	401
Introduction . . . . .	401
Corrections in the Family Aclerididae . . . . .	405
Corrections in the Family Asterolecanidae . . . . .	406
Corrections in the Family Coccidae . . . . .	406
Corrections in the Family Conchaspidae . . . . .	409
Corrections in the Family Diaspididae . . . . .	409
Corrections in the Family Eriococcidae . . . . .	410
Corrections in the Family Matsucoccidae . . . . .	410
Corrections in the Family Monophlebidae . . . . .	410
Corrections in the Family Ortheziidae . . . . .	411
Corrections in the Family Pseudococcidae . . . . .	411
Corrections in the Family Rhizoecidae . . . . .	413
Acknowledgements . . . . .	413
References . . . . .	414

### Abstract

We give some simple rules on Latin grammar to help scale insect systematists to apply the correct adjectival gender endings to species names. We list some common errors that have occurred when species names have either been proposed with a wrong gender ending or when they have been transferred from one genus to another. We also correct the gender endings to several species names in a few families.

**Key words:** International Code of Zoological Nomenclature, scientific Latin

### Introduction

According to Article 31.2 of the International Code of Zoological Nomenclature (International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature, 1999) (hereafter, the Code), if a species name is a Latin or latinized adjective or participle in the nominative singular, it must agree in gender with the generic name with which it is at any time combined. This Article is sometimes forgotten and not always applied, probably because students are not acquainted with Latin. Some workers may believe it is of little consequence whether the genders agree but as we give addresses of our prestigious organisations in our publications, it is surely only proper for us to follow the Code precisely.

In this paper, we explain some simple Latin rules that can help systematists in assigning a correct combination