Nomenclatura Oligochaetologica—A catalogue of names, descriptions, and type specimens of the Oligochaeta. Editio Secunda

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During the 1950s, Gordon E. Gates (affiliated at that time with Tall Timbers Research Station near Tallahassee, Florida, USA), initiated compilation of a catalogue of scientific names of the Oligochaeta. Gates transferred his account records to John W. Reynolds in 1972, who enlisted the assistance of David G. Cook, an aquatic biologist working in Canada, to complete this catalogue. The first volume of this catalogue, Nomenclatura Oligochaetologica—a catalogue of names, descriptions, and type specimens of the Oligochaeta [N.O.], was published by Reynolds and Cook (1976). Three supplements—Supplementum Primum (Reynolds and Cook, 1981 [N.O.S.P.]), Supplementum Secundum (Reynolds and Cook, 1989 [N.O.S.S.]), and Supplementum Tertium (Reynolds and Cook, 1993 [N.O.S.T.])—were subsequently published, completing the first volume series of this nomenclator. After the retirement of Cook, Reynolds invited Wetzel to assist in the preparation of a fourth supplement to this first volume series. In 2012, the decision was made to forgo completion of a print version for this fourth supplement, redirecting efforts to compile a second edition, specifically to restructure it for presentation as a dedicated and active website.


During late 2021 and throughout most of 2022, this web-based nomenclator was migrated from a Concrete5 CMS (content management system written in PHP programming language) to a PIE / WordPress content management interface. This migration improved user navigation throughout the site—in particular, the drop-down taxa listings in the Nomenclator Generum, Nomenclator Subgenerum and Nomenclator Speciarium, access to support content (listed in the navigation sidebars of each page), efficiency when adding new accounts and their associated information, expanding information for taxon accounts (e.g., citations for systematic and nomenclatural changes), and addressing corrigenda.

The home page of this website presents a more extensive history of the Nomenclatura Oligochaetologica series, the current status and future direction of this nomenclator, synopses of the interlinked pages, and instructions for using the top and side navigator bars on all pages within this website.

To summarize, this web-based Second Edition of Nomenclatura Oligochaetologica [N.O.2]:

● integrates the accounts included in the first volume (Reynolds and Cook, 1976 [N.O.J]) with those presented in the three supplements (Reynolds and Cook, 1981 [N.O.S.P.], 1989 [N.O.S.S.], and 1993 [N.O.S.T.]—together comprising the original N.O. first volume series;

● updates and corrects accounts for the generic, subgeneric, specific, and infra-specific names of oligochaetes (Annelida, Clitellata) as presented in the original first volume series;

● adds accounts for oligochaete taxa described as new to science since the publication of N.O.S.T. in 1993—including barcode, tissue repository, other pertinent DNA sequencing information, DOI links to the publications in which new descriptions are presented, and links to GenBank records for new taxa;
● expands the Proclegomenon, Gratiarum Actiones, Praefatio, Index Auctorum, Index Auctoritatum, Index Museorum, Glossarium, and References sections of the original first volume series;

● includes translations (in 12 languages) of the Proclegomena and Glossaria of the first volume series and this second edition;

● presents and expands the Dedicatio section in the original series with biographies and memoria for our historical and contemporary colleagues focused on oligochaetology, including bibliographies of their published scientific and lay contributions;

● offers a forum entitled Current Perspectives where titles and abstracts for papers focusing in oligochaete phylogeny, taxonomy, systematics, and nomenclature are highlighted;

● provides a Using This Nomenclator section with account examples and instructions for using and navigating this web-based catalogue;

● presents a For Contributors page encouraging visitors to and users of information throughout this web-based nomenclator to provide us with additions and corrections to the accounts as presented in the Nomenclator Generum, Nomenclator Subgenerum, Nomenclator Specierum, as well as additions and corrections to the information presented elsewhere on this website;

● includes an annotated list of links to web-based annelid resources.

An Annual Accounting page summarizes the number of accounts for newly described taxa (genera, subgenera, species, and subspecies) that have been added (1990–present).

The advantage of this web-based edition is that it allows for corrections and additions to occur immediately after the information reaches us. To reiterate the information summarized on the For Contributors page, we encourage assistance from our colleagues around the World to correct errata, update the information for each taxon account as presented, and to provide complete account information for newly described taxa as well as those that we have overlooked. We also encourage all visitors to this N.O.2 site to access the information presented on the World Register of Marine Species by the WoRMS Editorial Board (2023) that has been expanding in recent years to include accounts for freshwater and terrestrial oligochaetes, acanthobdellidans, and branchiobdellidans.

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REFERENCES


descriptions and type specimens of the Oligochaeta. New Brunswick Museum Monographic Series (Natural Science) No. 8. v + 37 pp. [N.O.S.S.] [This second supplement may still be available from the New Brunswick Museum, 277 Douglas Avenue, Saint John, NB, Canada E2K 1E5].

