

## OPINION 1036

*PTERNISTES AFER* VAR. *ANGOLENSIS* BOCAGE, 1893 (AVES)  
 RULED A *LAPSUS CALAMI* FOR *PTERNISTES AFER* VAR.  
*BENGUELLENSIS* BOCAGE, 1893

**RULING.**—(1) It is hereby ruled that the subspecific name *angolensis* Bocage, 1893, as published in the combination *Pternistes afer* var. *angolensis*, is a *lapsus calami* for the subspecific name *benguellensis* Bocage, 1893, as published in the combination *Pternistes afer* var. *benguellensis* and that as such it has no status in zoological nomenclature.

(2) The subspecific name *angolensis* Bocage, 1893, as published in the combination *Pternistes afer* var. *angolensis*, declared in (1) above to have no status in zoological nomenclature, is hereby placed on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Specific Names in Zoology, with the Name Number 1002.

## HISTORY OF THE CASE (Z.N.(S.) 1548)

The present case was submitted to the office of the Commission by B. P. Hall in July 1962. Mrs. Hall's application was sent to the printer on 15 February 1969 and was published on 8 August 1969 in *Bull. zool. Nom.* 26 : 91–92. The plenary powers were not invoked. The application was supported by Professor J. M. Winterbottom.

## DECISION OF THE COMMISSION

On 22 March 1971 the Members of the Commission were invited to vote under the Three-Month Rule on Voting Paper (71)3 either for or against the proposals set out in *Bull. zool. Nom.* 26 : 92. A note from Dr. Sabrosky was circulated with the voting paper which stated: "In my opinion the Commission should not attempt to rule on whether something is or is not a *lapsus calami*. Even if the Bocage case was an example of a *lapsus*, there is no way of telling whether *benguellensis* or *angolensis* was the *lapsus*. The indisputable fact is that the two names were published simultaneously based on the same description. A choice was clearly made by the first reviser, Bowen (1930). The question of whether *angolensis* Rothschild is of sufficient importance to justify plenary action to save it is a separate question which should be met squarely on its own merits." At the close of the voting period on 22 June 1971 the state of the voting was as follows:

Affirmative votes—nine (9), received in the following order: Mayr, Melville, Vokes, Jaczewski, Alvarado, Eisenmann, Binder, Bonnet, Brinck

Negative votes—seven (7): Holthuis, Lemche, Tortonese, Simpson, Sabrosky, Kraus, Starobogatov

On Leave of Absence—one (1): Forest. Voting Papers not returned—two (2): Munroe, Ride

In returning their voting papers the following comments were made by Commissioners:

*Dr. L. B. Holthuis* (31.iii.71): "I fully agree with Sabrosky's statement."

*Dr. E. Mayr* (30.iii.71): "All other solutions would require a more elaborate mechanism."

*Dr. H. Lemche* (3.iv.71): "Sabrosky's comment is correct. The rejection of the present proposal, cannot, however, prevent a future proposal of preserving *angolensis* Rothschild under the plenary powers."

*Professor H. E. Vokes* (14.iv.74): "This seems clearly the simplest way of ensuring uniformity and the least amount of confusion."

*Professor E. Tortonese* (20.iv.71): "I share Sabrosky's opinion."

*Professor G. G. Simpson* (23.iv.71): "I agree that we cannot determine that a *lapsus* occurred or, if any, which name is the *lapsus*. The first reviser rule takes care of the case without action on our part."

*Professor Dr. O. Kraus* (21.vi.71): "I vote against the proposal for the reasons mentioned by Commissioner Sabrosky."

#### ORIGINAL REFERENCES

The following is the original reference for the name placed on the Official Index by the Ruling given in the present Opinion:  
*angolensis*, *Pternistes afer* var., Bocage, 1893, *Jorn. Sci. math. phys. nat.* (2) 3 : 154

#### CERTIFICATE

I certify that the votes cast on Voting Paper (71)3 were cast as set out above, that the proposals contained in that Voting Paper have been duly adopted, and that the decision so taken, being the decision of the International Commission, is truly recorded in the present Opinion No. 1036.

R. V. MELVILLE  
*Secretary*

*International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature*

*London*  
6 December 1974