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The status of the ordinal name Leotiales

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The ordinal name Leotiales S. E. Carp. was proposed by Carpenter in 1988 as a substitute for the invalid ordinal name Helotiales, but Carpenter's ordinal name was also not validly published. Helotiales Nannf. has since been validated. The ordinal name Leotiales Korf et Lizoň is proposed for a much smaller group of Discomycetes.

Key words: Helotiales, nomenclature, invalid publication

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Meno radu Leotiales S. E. Carp. navrhol Carpenter r. 1988 ako náhradu pre neplatné meno radu Helotiales, ale Carpenterovo meno bolo tiež neplatne uverejnené. Meno radu Helotiales Nannf. bolo medzičasom platne uverejnené. Meno radu Leotiales Korf et Lizoň je navrhované pre podstatne menšiu skupinu diskomycétov.

Carpenter (1988) proposed the ordinal name Leotiales S. E. Carp. as a "nomen novum" to replace the ordinal name Helotiales Nannf. (Nannfeldt 1932), which was based on the invalid generic name Helotium Pers., a later homonym of Helotium Tode: Fr. His arguments for rejecting Helotiales were apparently flawless. His reasoning that one should not adopt any of the available ordinal names, Cyttariales Korf ex D. Hawksw. et O. E. Erikss., Medeolariales Korf, or Phacidiales Höhn., in each case in a necessarily greatly enlarged sense, we support wholeheartedly. Unfortunately, as pointed out to us some years ago by Prof. Werner Greuter, Berlin, Carpenter overlooked the fact that his new ordinal name lacks either a Latin

description or diagnosis, or reference to a previously and effectively published Latin description or diagnosis (International Code of Botanical Nomenclature, Art. 36.1). His name is thus not validly published, as it does not follow the Code.

We choose not to provide a Latin diagnosis to validate Carpenters name, since we do not need at this point to have a substitute for Nannfeldt's Helotiales. In an earlier paper, we have already validated Nannfeldt's ordinal name (Korf and Lizoň 2000).

Quite to the contrary, we remain convinced that a very few genera, centered on the genus Leotia Pers., that have typically been placed in the Helotiales, deserve ordinal recognition as different from the Helotiales, and we have thus recognized the Leotiaceae Corda emend. as a separate family (Lizoň et al. 1998) in a separate order from the Helotiaceae Rehm, nom. conserv. (Korf et al. 1996), a name which was conserved at the last International Botanical Congress. Lizoň et al. (1998) placed the Leotiaceae in this restricted sense in a separate order, Leotiales (no author citation given), with only one family recognized. This is a very different use of the name Leotiaceae than the greatly expanded one proposed by Korf (1973). We know from correspondence with several colleagues that our position of recognizing two orders for these fungi is viewed with some skepticism, but our proposal here is to provide a valid ordinal name for such fungi whenever others agree with us that both orders deserve recognition. If our position is proven to be incorrect, our new ordinal name proposed here would merely become a later synonym of Helotiales Nannf. Both ordinal names will now become validly published.

Leotiales Korf et Lizoň, ord. nov.

Ordo discomycetum inoperculatarum, distinctarum apotheciis strato excipuli ectalis exteriore praeditis ex textura intricata vel porrecta in gelatino copioso immersa formato (hoc strato interdum restricto ad pulvinum basalem gelatini ad basim stipitis vel partim supra latera apotheciorum), strato interiori hypharum parietibus exilibus vel textura cellulari non in gelatino praeditarum, et strato medullari hypharum denuo in gelatino immerso.

An order of inoperculate discomycetes characterized by apothecia with the outermost layer of the ectal excipulum composed of textura intricata to textura porrecta immersed in a copious gel (sometimes this layer restricted to a basal pad of gel at the base of the stipe or only part way up the flanks of the apothecia), with an inner layer of thin-walled hyphae or a cellular tissue not in a gel, and a medullary layer of hyphae again immersed in a gel.

Typus: *Leotia* Pers.: Fr (Persoon 1794) [automatic typification: ICBN Art. 16.1]

Families included: Leotiaceae Corda (Corda 1842)

Other genera included: *Calloriopsis* Syd. et P. Syd. (Sydow & Sydow 1917), *Gelatinopsis* Rambold et Triebel (1990), *Gelatinopulvinella* Hosoya et Y. Otani

(1995), *Geocoryne* Korf (Korf et al. 1978), *Neobulgaria* Petrak (1921), and *Pezoloma* Clements (1909).

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