

Best Practices in Herpetological Taxonomy: Errata and Addenda

In a recent issue of *Herpetological Review*, my co-authors and I published a *Point of View* article outlining a set of best practices for workers in the field of herpetological taxonomy (Kaiser et al. 2013). The goal of that article was to defend modern herpetology from “taxonomic vandalism” (see Jäch 2007), and it has generated considerable discussion among zoological taxonomists (e.g., in the online listserv *Taxacom*). There is broad, although not unanimous, agreement on the part of herpetologists with our proposed solutions for how to handle taxonomic vandalism, and there is widespread recognition amongst zoological taxonomists in general that (1) taxonomic vandalism in zoology occurs and can pose a problem for users, (2) that the *International Code of Zoological Nomenclature* (ICZN 1999; hereafter, the *Code*) in its function as an accounting system outside of the scientific method cannot safeguard scientific output from interference by authors who do not conform to scientific principles (see Kaiser 2013), and (3) that the adjudication of taxonomic decisions ultimately remains in the hands of authors, editors, and, in terms of the resulting nomenclature but not the taxonomic decisions, the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature (hereafter, ICZN). I am pleased to report that authors (e.g., Bates et al. 2013; Reynolds et al. 2014) as well as editors (e.g., Measey 2013) are now applying the recommendations we made. It is the purpose of this follow-up paper to correct four minor errors made in the earlier paper’s list of taxonomic recommendations (Kaiser et al. 2013: Table 1), augment that list with a new set of recommendations for 255 unscientific names presented by Hoser (2013a–ag^[1]), and provide some clarification of the earlier paper regarding the relationship between scientific taxonomy and the *Code*.

ERRATA

Recommendation for Costinisauria couperi Wells 2009.—Kaiser et al. (2013) erroneously recommended the use of *Lampropholis couperi* in place of *Costinisauria couperi*. Instead, they should have listed *Eulamprus kosciuskoi* as the correct recommendation. The original listing of *C. couperi* in Wells (2009) shows that the author intended to separate his purported species from *C. worrelli* Wells and Wellington 1985, a name in the synonymy of *E. kosciuskoi* (see Shea and Sadler 1999).

Recommendation for Cyrtodactylus abrae Wells 2002.—Kaiser et al. (2013) erroneously recommended the use of *Cyrtodactylus tuberculatus* in place of *C. abrae*. Instead, they should have listed *C. pulchellus* as the correct recommendation. The authors overlooked an important recent paper, in which Shea et al. (2011) investigated the status of *C. abrae*. By designating the lectotype of *C. pulchellus* as the neotype of *C. abrae* (a poorly described taxon based on a photograph, and for which the nominal holotype did not exist), Shea et al. (2011)

permanently relegated the name *C. abrae* to the status of junior synonym of *C. pulchellus*.

Recommendation for Zeusius sternfeldi Wells 2007.—Kaiser et al. (2013) erroneously recommended the use of *Cyclodomorphus casuarinae* in place of *Zeusius sternfeldi*. *Zeusius sternfeldi* is, in fact, a synonym of *C. venustus*. In his description of *Z. sternfeldi* Wells (2007) listed, without attribution, diagnostic characters from Shea and Miller (1995) for a population these authors considered conspecific with *C. venustus*.

Typographical error.—In Table 1, Kaiser et al. (2013) list the name *Calloselasma*, without italic lettering, as a new tribe presented by Hoser (2012b). This name should have been listed as *Calloselasma*. Hoser (2013m) described this putative tribe as new for the second time, both times in violation of the Principle of Coordination (Article 36 of the *Code*).

ADDENDA

In the course of writing the recent *Point of View* paper, my co-authors and I fully anticipated the production of additional taxon names by Raymond Hoser, but we were nevertheless dumbfounded by the sheer number of new names he created in five recent issues of his self-published *Australasian Journal of Herpetology* (hereafter *AJH*). In these issues, Hoser proposes a globe-spanning series of 255 new names for snakes and turtles at the family, subfamily, tribe, subtribe, genus, subgenus, species, and subspecies level. Following the standard of Kaiser et al. (2013), I here list these new names with recommendations for scientifically valid names (Table 1). In this list I also identify taxa violating Article 29 (proper formation of family-group names) and Article 36 (Principle of Coordination) of the *Code* and present corrections. I wish to note that, contrary to the exclamations by Hoser (2013n), the recommendations by Kaiser et al. (2013), and the ones presented herein are not formal taxonomic decisions underpinned by new evidence, but simply the most appropriate names to be used in place of dubious taxon names presented by Hoser since the year 2000; I consider Hoser’s post-2000 names non-existent for the purposes of taxonomy and nomenclature. The names coined by Hoser (2003), inadvertently omitted by Kaiser et al. (2013), are included in this new listing.

BEST PRACTICES REVISITED AND REAFFIRMED

There are two fundamental issues when dealing with non-peer-reviewed, unscientific contributions in taxonomy. The first of these is to clearly define the line separating taxonomy and nomenclature, as defined and differentiated by Pyle and Michel

[1] As for the year 2012 (see Kaiser et al. 2013), due to the large number of works produced by Raymond Hoser in 2013 (N = 33), I continued the enumeration of citations by beginning the alphabet anew. Thus, in addition to Hoser (2013a–z), nine additional references exist (Hoser 2013aa–ai).

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TABLE 1. List of 255 herpetofaunal taxa published as new by Raymond Hoser from April–September 2013, plus one set of names from Hoser (2003) that was inadvertently omitted by Kaiser et al. (2013). I follow Kaiser et al. (2013) in considering the manner in which these names were produced unscientific, in violation of Articles 8.1.1, 29, 36 and the *Code of Ethics* of the *International Code of Zoological Nomenclature* (ICZN 1999); these dubious names therefore have no standing in taxonomy and nomenclature. Readers *should not use these names* but instead revert to those listed in the column titled “Recommendation,” where nomenclaturally available and taxonomically suitable scientific names are provided. For clarification, the Recommendation column shows subgenera in parentheses with their corresponding genus name, according to standard nomenclatural usage. The Recommendation column may include several scientifically valid names when a non-scientific higher group taxon (e.g., tribe, subtribe) encompasses multiple lower ranked taxa. All other capitalized and italicized names are genera or subgenera. These recommendations do not constitute synonyms under the rules of the *Code*, but serve as substitutes for Hoser’s names until a formal, scientific treatment for the groups under consideration is published. A name formed incorrectly according to Article 29 of the *Code* is identified by the superscript A29. A name, whose description as new violates the Principle of Coordination of the *Code* (Article 36) and therefore is not new, is identified by the superscript A36. In these cases, a corrected version of the name and/or the proper authorship is provided after the taxon name. The footnotes list a variety of incongruities, including some with formal relevance.

Taxon	Taxon Rank	Citation	Recommendation
Acrantophiidae ^{A29, A36} [Acrantophidae; <i>Acrantophis</i> Jan 1860]	fam. nov.	Hoser 2013a	Boidae (part)
Acrantophiini ^{A29, A36} [Acrantophini; <i>Acrantophis</i> Jan 1860]	trib. nov.	Hoser 2013a	<i>Acrantophis</i> ¹
<i>Acrantophis sloppi</i>	sp. nov.	Hoser 2013a	<i>Acrantophis dumerilii</i>
<i>Adelynhoserboa</i>	gen. nov.	Hoser 2013j	<i>Tropidophis</i> (part)
<i>Adelynhoserboa</i> (<i>Adelynhoserboa</i>)	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013j	<i>Tropidophis taczanouskyi</i>
<i>Adelynhoserboa</i> (<i>Merceicaboa</i>)	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013j	<i>Tropidophis paucisquamis</i>
<i>Adelynhoserboa</i> (<i>Pattersonboa</i>)	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013j	<i>Tropidophis battersbyi</i>
<i>Adelynhoserboaina</i> ^{A29} [Adelynhoserboaina]	subtrib. nov.	Hoser 2013j	<i>Tropidophis</i>
<i>Adelynhosersaur</i>	gen. nov.	Hoser 2013ad	<i>Hypsilurus spinipes</i>
<i>Adelynhosersaurini</i> ²	trib. nov.	Hoser 2013ad	<i>Hypsilurus spinipes</i> , <i>H. dilophus</i>
<i>Adelynhoserserpene welsi</i>	sp. nov.	Hoser 2013e	<i>Atropoides occiduus</i>
<i>Adelynhoserserpina</i> ³	subtrib. nov.	Hoser 2013m	<i>Atropoides</i> (part)
<i>Adelynhoserserpini</i>	trib. nov.	Hoser 2013m	<i>Atropoides</i> , <i>Cerrophidion</i> , <i>Porithidium</i>
<i>Ahaetullini</i> ^{A29, A36} [Ahaetullini; <i>Ahaetulla</i> Link 1801]	trib. nov.	Hoser 2013i	<i>Ahaetulla</i> , <i>Chrysopelea</i>
<i>Amphibolurini</i> ^{A36} [<i>Amphibolurus</i> Wagler 1830]	trib. nov.	Hoser 2013ad	<i>Amphibolurinae</i> (part)
<i>Anomochilus marleneswileae</i>	sp. nov.	Hoser 2013f	<i>Anomochilus leonardi</i>
<i>Antaresia brentonoloughiini</i> ⁴	sp. nov.	Hoser 2003	<i>Antaresia maculosa</i>
<i>Atractaspis</i> (<i>Benjaminiswileus</i>)	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013v	<i>Atractaspis boulengeri</i>
<i>Atractaspis</i> (<i>Lowryus</i>)	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013v	<i>Atractaspis duerdeni</i>
<i>Bennettsaurini</i>	trib. nov.	Hoser 2013ac	<i>Platysaurus mitchelli</i> , <i>P. maculatus</i>
<i>Bennettsaurus</i>	gen. nov.	Hoser 2013ac	<i>Platysaurus mitchelli</i> , <i>P. maculatus</i>
<i>Bennettsaurus</i> (<i>Bennettsaurus</i>)	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013ac	<i>Platysaurus mitchelli</i>
<i>Bennettsaurus</i> (<i>Lucysaurea</i>)	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013ac	<i>Platysaurus maculatus</i>
<i>Bitis</i> (<i>Klosevipera</i>)	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013o	<i>Bitis caudalis</i> , <i>B. peringuey</i> , <i>B. schneideri</i>
<i>Bitis</i> (<i>Klosevipera</i>) <i>caudalis kajerikbullitardi</i>	subsp. nov.	Hoser 2013o	<i>Bitis caudalis</i>
<i>Bitis</i> (<i>Klosevipera</i>) <i>caudalis swilae</i>	subsp. nov.	Hoser 2013o	<i>Bitis caudalis</i>
<i>Bitis</i> (<i>Kuektus</i>)	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013o	<i>Bitis parviocula</i> ⁵
<i>Bitis brianuwallacei</i>	sp. nov.	Hoser 2013o	<i>Bitis arietans</i>
<i>Bitis funki</i>	sp. nov.	Hoser 2013p	<i>Bitis gabonica</i>
<i>Bitis hoserae</i>	sp. nov.	Hoser 2013p	<i>Bitis nascornis</i>
<i>Bitis lourenceklosei</i>	sp. nov.	Hoser 2013o	<i>Bitis arietans</i>
<i>Bitis matteoae</i>	sp. nov.	Hoser 2013o	<i>Bitis atropos</i>
<i>Bitis oflahertyae</i>	sp. nov.	Hoser 2013o	<i>Bitis arietans</i>
<i>Bitis pintauidii</i>	sp. nov.	Hoser 2013o	<i>Bitis arietans</i>

TABLE 1. Continued

Taxon	Taxon Rank	Citation	Recommendation
<i>Bitis tomcottoni</i>	sp. nov.	Hoser 2013o	<i>Bitis arietans</i>
<i>Bitis wellingtoni</i>	sp. nov.	Hoser 2013p	<i>Bitis gabonica</i>
<i>Bitis wellsii</i>	sp. nov.	Hoser 2013p	<i>Bitis gabonica</i>
Boigaini ^{A29, A36} [Boigaini; <i>Boiga Fitzinger</i> 1826]	trib. nov.	Hoser 2013b	<i>Boiga</i> (part), <i>Dipsadomorphus</i> , <i>Toxicodryas</i>
<i>Bothrocophias</i> [Pughvipera]	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013s	<i>Bothrocophias campbelli</i> , <i>B. myersi</i>
Bothrocophiina ^{3, A36} [<i>Bothrocophias</i> Gutberlet and Campbell 2001]	subtrib. nov.	Hoser 2013m	<i>Bothrocophias</i>
Bothropina ^{3, A36} [<i>Bothrops</i> Wagler, 1824]	subtrib. nov.	Hoser 2013m	<i>Bothrops</i> (part)
Bothropoidina ^{A36} [<i>Bothropoides</i> Fenwick et al. 2009]	subtrib. nov.	Hoser 2013m	<i>Bothrops</i> (part)
<i>Bothrops lenhoseri</i>	sp. nov.	Hoser 2013r	<i>Bothrops asper</i>
<i>Bothrops mexicoiensis</i> [sic] ⁶	sp. nov.	Hoser 2013r	<i>Bothrops asper</i>
<i>Bothrops mexicoiensis maccartneyi</i> [sic] ⁶	subsp. nov.	Hoser 2013r	<i>Bothrops asper</i>
<i>Boulengerina adelynhoserae</i>	sp. nov.	Hoser 2013t	<i>Naja</i> (<i>Boulengerina</i>) <i>melanoleuca</i>
<i>Boulengerina jachyhoserae</i>	sp. nov.	Hoser 2013t	<i>Naja</i> (<i>Boulengerina</i>) <i>melanoleuca</i>
Brachyophidiini ^{A36} [Brachyophidium Wall 1921]	trib. nov.	Hoser 2013l	<i>Brachyophidium</i>
<i>Brogammerus</i> (<i>Wellsipython</i>)	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013d	<i>Malayopython timoriensis</i>
<i>Brogammerus reticulatus dalegibbonsi</i> ⁷	ssp. nov.	Hoser 2013d	<i>Malayopython reticulatus</i>
<i>Brogammerus reticulatus euameduardsi</i> ⁷	ssp. nov.	Hoser 2013d	<i>Malayopython reticulatus</i>
<i>Brogammerus reticulatus haydnmacphieii</i> ⁷	ssp. nov.	Hoser 2013d	<i>Malayopython reticulatus</i>
<i>Brogammerus reticulatus neilsonnemani</i> ⁷	ssp. nov.	Hoser 2013d	<i>Malayopython reticulatus</i>
<i>Brogammerus reticulatus patrickcouperi</i> ⁷	ssp. nov.	Hoser 2013d	<i>Malayopython reticulatus</i>
<i>Brogammerus reticulatus stuartbigmorei</i> ⁷	ssp. nov.	Hoser 2013d	<i>Malayopython reticulatus</i>
<i>Brucegonus</i>	gen. nov.	Hoser 2013aa	<i>Dendelaphis caudolineolatus</i>
<i>Calliophis</i> (<i>Benmooreus</i>)	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013k	<i>Calliophis bibroni</i> , <i>C. haematoetron</i> , <i>C. melanurus</i>
<i>Calliophis</i> (<i>Paulstokesus</i>)	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013k	<i>Calliophis beddomei</i> , <i>C. castoe</i> , <i>C. nigrescens</i>
<i>Calliophis</i> (<i>Swilea</i>)	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013k	<i>Calliophis maculiceps</i>
Calloselasmainae ^{A29, A36} [Calloselasma Cope 1860]	subfam. nov.	Hoser 2013s	<i>Calloselasma</i> , <i>Hypnale</i>
Calloselasmii ^{A29, A36} [Calloselasmii; <i>Calloselasma</i> Cope 1860]	trib. nov.	Hoser 2013m	<i>Calloselasma</i> , <i>Hypnale</i>
<i>Candoia</i> (<i>Erebophis</i>) <i>aspera iansimpsoni</i>	ssp. nov.	Hoser 2013a	<i>Candoia aspera schmidti</i>
<i>Candoidini</i> ^{A29, A36} [Candoïni; <i>Candoia</i> Gray 1842]	trib. nov.	Hoser 2013a	<i>Candoia</i> ⁸
<i>Candoiidae</i> ^{A29, A36} [Candoiidae; <i>Candoia</i> Gray 1842]	fam. nov.	Hoser 2013a	<i>Boidae</i> (part)
<i>Carstensus</i>	gen. nov.	Hoser 2013y	<i>Attractus clarki</i>
<i>Causus perkinsi</i>	sp. nov.	Hoser 2013q	<i>Causus lichtensteini</i>
<i>Ceratrimeresurus</i> (<i>Lowryvipera</i>)	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013s	<i>Protobothrops cornutus</i> , <i>P. jerdonii</i> , <i>P. xiangchengensis</i>
<i>Cerrophodionina</i> [sic] ⁹	subtrib. nov.	Hoser 2013m	<i>Atropoides</i> (part), <i>Cerrophidion</i>
<i>Chamaelycus euameduardsi</i>	sp. nov.	Hoser 2013w	<i>Chamaelycus fasciatus</i>
Charlespiersonserpeniidae ^{A29} [Charlespiersonserpenidae]	fam. nov.	Hoser 2013i	<i>Ahaetulla</i> , <i>Dendrelaphis</i> , <i>Chrysopelea</i>
Charlespiersonserpeninae ^{A29} [Charlespiersonserpeninae]	subfam. nov.	Hoser 2013i	<i>Ahaetulla</i> , <i>Dendrelaphis</i> , <i>Chrysopelea</i>
Charlespiersonserpenini	trib. nov.	Hoser 2013i	<i>Dendrelaphis</i>
<i>Charlespiersonserpens</i> (<i>Macmillanus</i>) <i>jachyhoserae</i> ⁰	sp. nov.	Hoser 2013m	<i>Dendrelaphis lorentzi</i>
<i>Chondropython shireenae</i> ¹¹	sp. nov.	Hoser 2003	<i>Morelia viridis</i>
Chrismaxwellini ^{A29} [Chrismaxwellini]	tribe nov.	Hoser 2013x	<i>Coluber zebrinus</i> , <i>Bamanophis</i> , <i>Macroprotodon</i>
<i>Chrismaxwellius</i>	gen. nov.	Hoser 2013x	<i>Coluber zebrinus</i>

TABLE 1. Continued

Taxon	Taxon Rank	Citation	Recommendation
<i>Chrysopelea (Wellserpens)</i>	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013b	<i>Chrysopelea taprobanica</i>
<i>Conantivipera</i>	gen. nov.	Hoser 2013s	<i>Gloydinus</i> (part)
<i>Cordylus (Hulimkacordylus)</i>	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013ac	<i>Cordylus</i> (part)
Cottonsaurini	trib. nov.	Hoser 2013ac	<i>Zonurus</i> (part), <i>Chamaesaura</i> , <i>Pseudocordylus</i> , <i>Smaug</i>
<i>Cottonsaurus</i>	gen. nov.	Hoser 2013ac	<i>Zonosaurus</i> (part)
<i>Cottonivipera</i>	gen. nov.	Hoser 2013s	<i>Onophis zayuensis</i> , <i>O. tonkinensis</i>
<i>Craspedocephalus (Borneovipera)</i>	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013s	<i>Trimeresurus</i> (<i>Craspedocephalus</i>) (part)
<i>Crotalina</i> ^{A36} [<i>Crotalus</i> Linnaeus 1758]	subtrib. nov.	Hoser 2013m	Crotalidae (part)
<i>Crotyserpens</i>	gen. nov.	Hoser 2013l	<i>Rhinophis fergusonianus</i> , <i>R. sanguineus</i> , <i>R. travancoricus</i>
<i>Crotyserpens (Ackyserpens)</i>	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013l	<i>Rhinophis fergusonianus</i> , <i>R. sanguineus</i>
<i>Crotyserpens (Crotyserpens)</i>	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013l	<i>Rhinophis travancoricus</i>
<i>Crottyvipera</i>	gen. nov.	Hoser 2013l	<i>Protobothrops microsquamatus</i> , <i>P. elegans</i>
Ctenophorini ^{A36} [<i>Ctenophorus</i> Fitzinger 1843]	trib. nov.	Hoser 2013s	<i>Ctenophorus</i>
<i>Cummingivipera</i>	gen. nov.	Hoser 2013ad	<i>Protobothrops kaulbacki</i> , <i>P. himalayanus</i>
<i>Cylindrophis (Cylindrophis)</i>	gen. nov.	Hoser 2013s	<i>Cylindrophis</i> (part)
<i>Cylindrophis (Macgoldrichea)</i>	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013f	<i>Cylindrophis maculatus</i>
<i>Cylindrophis (Motteramus)</i>	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013f	<i>Cylindrophis</i> (part)
<i>Cylindrophis (Motteramus) wilsoni</i>	sp. nov.	Hoser 2013f	<i>Cylindrophis boulengeri</i>
<i>Dannycoleus</i>	gen. nov.	Hoser 2013aa	<i>Dendrelaphis bifrenalis</i> , <i>D. giri</i>
<i>Dasypeltis saezadi</i>	sp. nov.	Hoser 2013ag	<i>Dasypeltis scabra</i>
<i>Dreuwiliamsus</i>	gen. nov.	Hoser 2013y	<i>Aractus zidoki</i>
<i>Drysdalia (Staszewskius)</i>	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013ab	<i>Drysdalia rhodogaster</i>
<i>Drysdalia mastersii andrewlowry</i>	subsp. nov.	Hoser 2013ab	<i>Drysdalia mastersii</i>
<i>Drysdalia mastersii robuatsoni</i>	subsp. nov.	Hoser 2013ab	<i>Drysdalia mastersii</i>
<i>Edwardssaurus</i>	gen. nov.	Hoser 2013ac	<i>Platysaurus maculatus</i>
<i>Edwardssaurus (Edwardssaurus)</i>	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013ac	<i>Platysaurus</i> (part)
<i>Edwardssaurus (Macgoldrichsaurus)</i>	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013ac	<i>Platysaurus</i> (part)
<i>Edwardssaurus (Vrijjsaurus)</i>	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013ac	<i>Platysaurus ocellatus</i>
<i>Empugusia (Dendrovaranus) salvator woolfi</i>	subsp. nov.	Hoser 2013af	<i>Varanus (Soterosaurus) salvator bivittatus</i>
<i>Empugusia</i> ^{A29, A36} [<i>Empagusia</i> Gray 1838]	trib. nov.	Hoser 2013af	<i>Varanus (Empagusia)</i>
<i>Euprepiosaurus indicus wellingtoni</i>	subsp. nov.	Hoser 2013af	<i>Varanus indicus</i>
<i>Euprepiosaurus indicus wellingtoni</i>	subsp. nov.	Hoser 2013af	<i>Varanus indicus</i>
<i>Ernieswileus</i>	gen. nov.	Hoser 2013f	<i>Anomochilus monticola</i>
<i>Funkisaurus</i>	gen. nov.	Hoser 2013ac	<i>Broadleysaurus major</i>
<i>Funkisaurusini</i> ^{A29} [<i>Funkisaurusini</i>]	trib. nov.	Hoser 2013ac	<i>Broadleysaurus major</i>
<i>Furina ornata toddpattersoni</i>	ssp. nov.	Hoser 2013g	<i>Furina ornata</i>
<i>Georgekonstandinouini</i> ^{A29} [<i>Georgekonstandinouini</i>]	tribe nov.	Hoser 2013v	<i>Arctaspis</i> (part)
<i>Georgekonstandinouus</i> [sic] ¹²	gen. nov.	Hoser 2013v	<i>Arctaspis</i> (part)
<i>Georgekonstandinouus (Georgekonstandinouus)</i>	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013v	<i>Arctaspis irregularis</i>
<i>Georgekonstandinouus (Slatteryaspus)</i>	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013v	<i>Arctaspis congica</i> , <i>A. reticulata</i>
<i>Georgekonstandinouus (Wellingtonaspus)</i>	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013v	<i>Arctaspis engdahli</i>
<i>Gerrhopilus carolinehoserae</i> ¹³	sp. nov.	Hoser 2013m	<i>Gerrhopilus hedraeus</i>

TABLE 1. Continued

Taxon	Taxon Rank	Citation	Recommendation
<i>Gerrhosaurina</i> ^{A29, A36} [Gerrhosaurina; <i>Gerrhosaurus</i> Wiegmann 1828]	subtrib. nov.	Hoser 2013ac	Gerrhosaurinae (part)
<i>Gerrhosaurini</i> ^{A29, A36} [Gerrhosaurini; <i>Gerrhosaurus</i> Wiegmann 1828]	trib. nov.	Hoser 2013ac	Gerrhosaurinae (part)
<i>Gongylosoma (Avonlovellus)</i>	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013z	<i>Gongylosoma nicobariensis</i>
<i>Gongylosoma (Pauelliotus)</i>	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013z	<i>Gongylosoma longicauda</i> , <i>G. mukutense</i>
<i>Hallibysaurus</i>	gen. nov.	Hoser 2013ac	<i>Zonosaurus trilineatus</i> , <i>Z. quadrilineatus</i>
<i>Hapsidophrys daraini</i>	sp. nov.	Hoser 2013w	<i>Hapsidophrys lineatus</i>
<i>Hapsidophrys pintauidii</i>	sp. nov.	Hoser 2013w	<i>Hapsidophrys smaragdina</i>
<i>Hawkeswoodelapidus</i>	gen. nov.	Hoser 2013ab	<i>Elapognathus</i>
<i>Hawkeswoodsaurus</i>	gen. nov.	Hoser 2013ac	Zonosaurinae (part)
<i>Hawkeswoodsaurus (Hawkeswoodsaurus)</i>	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013ac	Zonosaurinae (part)
<i>Hawkeswoodsaurus (Nussbaumsaurus)</i>	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013ac	<i>Zonosaurus tsingy</i>
<i>Hawkeswoodsaurus (Raselimananasaurus)</i>	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013ac	<i>Zonosaurus aeneus</i>
<i>Hawkeswoodsaurus (Raxuorhysaurus)</i>	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013ac	<i>Zonosaurus brygooi</i>
<i>Helodermini</i> ^{A36} [<i>Heloderma</i> Wiegmann 1829]	trib. nov.	Hoser 2013ae	<i>Heloderma</i>
<i>Hemachatus haemachatus macconchei</i> [sic] ¹⁴	subsp. nov.	Hoser 2013u	<i>Hemachatus haemachatus</i>
<i>Hulimiki</i> ¹⁵	trib. nov.	Hoser 2013m	<i>Suta</i>
<i>Hydrophis (Crottyhydrophis)</i>	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013c	<i>Hydrophis donaldi</i>
<i>Hypsilurini</i> ^{A36} [<i>Hypsilurus</i> Peters 1867]	trib. nov.	Hoser 2013ad	<i>Hypsilurus</i> (part)
<i>Intellagami</i> ^{A36} [<i>Intellagama</i> Wells and Wellington 1985]	trib. nov.	Hoser 2013ad	<i>Intellagama</i>
<i>Jackyhoserboa</i>	gen. nov.	Hoser 2013j	<i>Tropidophis greenwayi</i> , <i>T. haetianus</i>
<i>Jackyhoserina</i> ³	subtrib. nov.	Hoser 2013m	<i>Bothrops</i> (part)
<i>Jackyhoserini</i> ³	trib. nov.	Hoser 2013m	<i>Bothrops</i> , <i>Bothrocophias</i>
<i>Jackyhosersaur</i>	gen. nov.	Hoser 2013ad	<i>Diporiphora superba</i>
<i>Karusasaurini</i>	trib. nov.	Hoser 2013ac	<i>Karusasaurus</i> , <i>Ouroborus</i>
<i>Katrinahoservipera</i>	gen. nov.	Hoser 2013s	<i>Gloydius</i> (part)
<i>Katrinus jackyae</i> ⁶	sp. nov.	Hoser 2003	<i>Liasis fuscus</i>
<i>Libertadictus (Adelynhosertyphlops)</i>	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013g	<i>Anilius</i> (part)
<i>Libertadictus (Bennettyphlops)</i>	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013g	<i>Anilius pinguis</i> , <i>A. bicolor</i>
<i>Libertadictus (Buckleytyphlops)</i>	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013g	<i>Anilius aspinus</i>
<i>Libertadictus (Jackyhosertyphlops)</i>	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013g	<i>Anilius</i> (part)
<i>Libertadictus (Jackyhosertyphlops) adelynhoserae</i>	sp. nov.	Hoser 2013g	<i>Anilius grypus</i>
<i>Libertadictus (Jackyhosertyphlops) cliffrosswellingtoni</i>	sp. nov.	Hoser 2013g	<i>Anilius grypus</i>
<i>Libertadictus (Kerrytyphlops)</i>	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013g	<i>Anilius proximus</i>
<i>Libertadictus (Manttyphlops)</i>	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013g	<i>Anilius</i> (part)
<i>Libertadictus (Patersonityphlops)</i>	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013g	<i>Anilius</i> (part)
<i>Libertadictus (Robinwittityphlops)</i>	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013g	<i>Anilius unguirostris</i>
<i>Libertadictus (Robinwittityphlops) jackyhoserae</i>	sp. nov.	Hoser 2013g	<i>Anilius unguirostris</i>
<i>Libertadictus (Sheatyphlops)</i>	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013g	<i>Anilius batillus</i>
<i>Libertadictus (Siluatyphlops)</i>	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013g	<i>Anilius silvia</i>
<i>Libertadictus (Sloppytyphlops)</i>	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013g	<i>Anilius</i> (part)
<i>Libertadictus (Sloppytyphlops) richardwellisi</i>	sp. nov.	Hoser 2013g	<i>Anilius ammodytes</i>
<i>Libertadictus (Suewittityphlops) sloppi</i>	sp. nov.	Hoser 2013g	<i>Anilius ligatus</i>

TABLE 1. Continued

Taxon	Taxon Rank	Citation	Recommendation
<i>Libertadictus (Suewittyplops)</i> [sic]	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013g	<i>Aniilos</i> (part)
<i>Liopeltis tricolor borneoensis</i> [sic] ¹⁷	subsp. nov.	Hoser 2013z	<i>Liopeltis tricolor</i>
<i>Liopeltis tricolor brummeri</i>	subsp. nov.	Hoser 2013z	<i>Liopeltis tricolor</i>
<i>Liopeltis tricolor philippinensis</i> [sic] ¹⁸	subsp. nov.	Hoser 2013z	<i>Liopeltis tricolor</i>
<i>Liophidium (Mattborgus)</i>	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013k	<i>Liophidium pattoni</i> , <i>L. rhodogaster</i>
<i>Liopholidophis (Chrisnewmanus)</i>	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013k	<i>Liopholidophis dimorphus</i> , <i>L. rhadinæa</i>
<i>Lycophidion woolfi</i>	sp. nov.	Hoser 2013w	<i>Lycophidion irroratum</i>
<i>Macrochelyini</i> ^{A29, A36} [<i>Macrochelysini</i> ¹⁹ ; <i>Macrochelys</i> Gray 1856]	trib. nov.	Hoser 2013h	<i>Macrochelys</i>
<i>Macrochelys maxhoseri</i>	sp. nov.	Hoser 2013h	<i>Macrochelys temmincki</i>
<i>Macrochelys temmincki muscati</i>	ssp. nov.	Hoser 2013h	<i>Macrochelys temmincki</i>
<i>Manserpens</i>	gen. nov.	Hoser 2013f	<i>Cylindrophis engkartiensis</i>
<i>Maxhosersaurus</i>	gen. nov.	Hoser 2013ae	<i>Heloderma suspectum</i>
<i>Maxhoserviperina</i> ³	subtrib. nov.	Hoser 2013m	<i>Daboia</i>
Melanophidiini ^{A29, A36} [Melanophidiini; Melanophidium Günther 1864]	trib. nov.	Hoser 2013l	<i>Melanophidium</i>
Micrelapidae ^{A29, A36} [Micrelapidae; Micrelaps Boettger 1880]	fam. nov.	Hoser 2013i	<i>Micrelaps</i>
Micrelapinae ^{A29, A36} [Micrelapinae; Micrelaps Boettger 1880]	subfam. nov.	Hoser 2013i	<i>Micrelaps</i>
Molochini ^{A29} [Moloch Gray 1841]	trib. nov.	Hoser 2013ad	<i>Moloch</i> , <i>Chelosania</i>
Montiviperina ^{A29} [<i>Montivipera</i> Nilson et al. 1999]	subtrib. nov.	Hoser 2013m	<i>Macrovipera</i> , <i>Montivipera</i>
<i>Morelia machburniei</i> ²⁰	sp. nov.	Hoser 2003	<i>Morelia spilota imbricata</i>
<i>Morelia mippughae</i> ²⁰	sp. nov.	Hoser 2003	<i>Morelia spilota</i>
Namazonurini ^{A29} [<i>Namazonurus</i> Stanley et al. 2011]	trib. nov.	Hoser 2013ac	<i>Namazonurus</i>
<i>Namazonurus (Atikaea)</i>	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013ac	<i>Namazonurus laurenci</i> , <i>N. peersi</i>
<i>Namazonurus (Slatterysaurus)</i>	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013ac	<i>Namazonurus namaquensis</i>
<i>Ninivipera</i>	gen. nov.	Hoser 2013s	<i>Gloydus himalayanus</i>
<i>Ninsaurus</i>	gen. nov.	Hoser 2013ac	<i>Ninsaurus langi</i>
<i>Notopseudonaja modesta wellsii</i>	ssp. nov.	Hoser 2013g	<i>Pseudonaja modesta</i>
<i>Odatria honlami</i>	sp. nov.	Hoser 2013af	<i>Varanus semiremex</i>
<i>Odatria hoseræ</i>	sp. nov.	Hoser 2013af	<i>Varanus glauerti</i>
<i>Odatria (Odatria) tristis nini</i>	subsp. nov.	Hoser 2013af	<i>Varanus tristis orientalis</i>
Oxyrhabiidiini ^{A29, A36} [Oxyrhabiidiinae; <i>Oxyrhabdium</i> Boulenger 1893]	fam. nov.	Hoser 2013i	<i>Oxyrhabdium</i>
Oxyrhabiidiinae ^{A29, A36} [Oxyrhabiidiinae; <i>Oxyrhabdium</i> Boulenger 1893]	subfam. nov.	Hoser 2013i	<i>Oxyrhabdium</i>
<i>Oxysaurus</i>	gen. nov.	Hoser 2013af	<i>Varanus spinulosus</i>
Oxyserpeniini ^{A29} [Oxyserpenini]	trib. nov.	Hoser 2013l	<i>Uropeltis</i> (part)
<i>Oxyserpens</i>	gen. nov.	Hoser 2013l	<i>Uropeltis</i> (part)
<i>Oxyserpens (Jealouserpens)</i>	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013l	<i>Uropeltis broughami</i> , <i>U. grandis</i>
<i>Oxyserpens (Oxyserpens)</i>	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013l	<i>Uropeltis</i> (part)
<i>Pailus hoseræ</i>	sp. nov.	Hoser 2013g	<i>Pseudechis australis</i>
Physignathini ^{A36} [<i>Physignathus</i> Cuvier 1829]	trib. nov.	Hoser 2013ad	<i>Physignathus</i>
<i>Piersonina</i> ³	subtrib. nov.	Hoser 2013m	<i>Crotalus rarus</i>
Platysaurini ^{A36} [<i>Platysaurus</i> Smith 1844]	trib. nov.	Hoser 2013ac	<i>Platysaurus</i> (part)
Plectrurini ^{A29, A36} [Plectrurini; <i>Plectrurus</i> Duméril 1851]	trib. nov.	Hoser 2013l	<i>Uropeltidae</i> (part)
Polydaedaliini ^{A29, A36} [<i>Polydaedalus</i> Wagler 1830]	trib. nov.	Hoser 2013af	<i>Varanus</i> (part)

TABLE 1. Continued

Taxon	Taxon Rank	Citation	Recommendation
<i>Porthidium (Davievipera)</i>	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013s	<i>Porthidium dunnii</i> , <i>P. ophryomegas</i>
<i>Porthidiumina</i> ^{A36} [<i>Porthidium</i> Cope 1871]	subtrib. nov.	Hoser 2013m	<i>Porthidium</i>
Psammodynastidae ^{A29, A36} [Psammodynastidae; <i>Psammodynastes</i> Boie 1827]	fam. nov.	Hoser 2013i	<i>Psammodynastes</i>
Psammodynastinae ^{A29, A36} [Psammodynastidae; <i>Psammodynastes</i> Boie 1827]	subfam. nov.	Hoser 2013i	<i>Psammodynastes</i>
Rhinocerophiina ^{A36} [<i>Rhinocerophis</i> Garman 1881]	subtrib. nov.	Hoser 2013m	<i>Bothrops</i> (part)
<i>Rhinocerophis (Blackleyvipera)</i>	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013s	<i>Bothrops</i> (part)
Rhinophiini ^{A36} [<i>Rhinophis</i> Hemprich 1820]	trib. nov.	Hoser 2013l	<i>Rhinophis</i> , <i>Uropeltis</i>
Rosnolanini ^{A29} [Rosnolanini]	tribe nov.	Hoser 2013z	<i>Cyclophiops</i> , <i>Liopeltis</i> , <i>Gongylosoma</i> , <i>Oreocryptophis</i>
<i>Rosnolanus</i>	gen. nov.	Hoser 2013z	<i>Liopeltis rappi</i>
<i>Ryukyuvipera</i>	gen. nov.	Hoser 2013s	<i>Ovophis okinawensis</i>
<i>Shaneblactus</i>	gen. nov.	Hoser 2013aa	<i>Dendrelaphis</i> (part)
<i>Shanekingus</i>	gen. nov.	Hoser 2013y	<i>Atractus wagleri</i> , <i>A. attenuates</i> , <i>A. sanguineus</i>
<i>Shireenhosersaurea</i>	gen. nov.	Hoser 2013af	<i>Varanus (Euprepiosaurus)</i> (part)
Shireenhosersaurini ^{A29} [Shireenhosersaurini]	trib. nov.	Hoser 2013af	<i>Varanus</i> (part)
<i>Siadactus (Akytyphilops)</i>	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013g	<i>Aniliotus</i> (part)
<i>Sloboiga</i>	gen. nov.	Hoser 2013b	<i>Boiga kraepelini</i>
<i>Sloppvipera</i>	gen. nov.	Hoser 2013s	<i>Tropidolaemus huttoni</i>
Swilesauriina ^{A29} [Swilesaurina]	subtrib. nov.	Hoser 2013ac	<i>Matobosaurus validus</i>
<i>Swilesaurus</i>	gen. nov.	Hoser 2013ac	<i>Matobosaurus validus</i>
Swileserpeniidae ^{A29} [Swileserpenidae]	fam. nov.	Hoser 2013i	<i>Buhomea</i>
Swileserpeniinae ^{A29} [Swileserpeninae]	subfam. nov.	Hoser 2013i	<i>Buhomea</i>
<i>Swilevipera</i>	gen. nov.	Hoser 2013s	<i>Trimeresurus (Parais) hageni</i>
Tetradactylusini ^{A29, A36} [Tetradactylusini; <i>Tetradactylus</i> Gray 1838]	trib. nov.	Hoser 2013ac	<i>Tetradactylus</i> , <i>Cordylosaurus</i>
Thermophiidae ^{A29, A36} [Thermophidae; <i>Thermophis</i> Malnate 1953]	fam. nov.	Hoser 2013i	<i>Thermophis</i>
Thermophiinae ^{A29, A36} [Thermophidae; <i>Thermophis</i> Malnate 1953]	subfam. nov.	Hoser 2013i	<i>Thermophis</i>
Tracheloptychina ²¹	trib. nov.	Hoser 2013ac	<i>Tracheloptychus</i>
<i>Trachyboa</i> ini ^{A29, A36} [Trachyboaini; <i>Trachyboa</i> Peters 1860]	trib. nov.	Hoser 2013j	<i>Trachyboa</i>
Tropidolaemusinae ^{A29, A36} [Tropidolaemusini; <i>Tropidolaemus</i> Wagler 1830]	subfam. nov.	Hoser 2013s	<i>Deinagkistrodon</i> , <i>Garthius</i> , <i>Tropidolaemus</i>
Tropidophiina ^{A29, A36} [Tropidophiina; <i>Tropidophis</i> Bibron 1843]	subtrib. nov.	Hoser 2013j	<i>Tropidophis</i> (part)
Tropidophiini ^{A29, A36} [Tropidophiini; <i>Tropidophis</i> Bibron 1843]	trib. nov.	Hoser 2013j	<i>Tropidophis</i>
<i>Tropidophis (Eseraboa)</i>	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013j	<i>Tropidophis canus</i>
<i>Tropidophis (Robertullboa)</i>	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013j	<i>Tropidophis caymanensis</i>
<i>Tropidophis (Rodwellboa)</i>	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013j	<i>Tropidophis melanurus</i>
<i>Ungaliophis panamensis lovelinayi</i>	ssp. nov.	Hoser 2013j	<i>Ungaliophis panamensis</i>
<i>Varanini</i> ^{A29, A36} [Varanini; <i>Varanus</i> Merrem 1820]	trib. nov.	Hoser 2013af	<i>Varanus</i> (part)
<i>Varanus (Aquativaranus)</i>	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013af	<i>Varanus (Varanus) mertensi</i>
<i>Varanus (Arborhabitatosaurus)</i>	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013af	<i>Varanus (Odatria) gilleni</i> , <i>V. (O.) bushi</i> , <i>V. (O.) caudolineatus</i>
<i>Varanus (Honlamus)</i>	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013af	<i>Varanus (Odatria) semiremex</i> , <i>V. (O.) mitchelli</i>
<i>Varanus (Honlamus) mitchelli hawkeswoodi</i>	subsp. nov.	Hoser 2013af	<i>Varanus (Odatria) mitchelli</i>
<i>Varanus (Kimberleyvaranus)</i>	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013af	<i>Varanus (Odatria) glebopalma</i>
<i>Varanus (Paravaranus)</i>	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013af	<i>Varanus (Odatria) brevicauda</i> , <i>V. (O.) eremius</i>

TABLE 1. Continued

Taxon	Taxon Rank	Citation	Recommendation
<i>Varanus (Pilbaravaranus)</i>	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013af	<i>Varanus (Odatria) pilbarensis</i>
<i>Viridovipera (Simpsonvipera)</i>	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013s	<i>Trimeresurus (Viridovipera) medoensis</i>
<i>Viridovipera (Yunnanvipera)</i>	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013s	<i>Trimeresurus (Viridovipera) yunnanensis</i>
<i>Wellingtonboa</i>	gen. nov.	Hoser 2013j	<i>Tropidophis haetianus</i>
<i>Wellingtonsaurus</i>	gen. nov.	Hoser 2013ac	Zonosaurinae (part)
<i>Wellsboa</i>	gen. nov.	Hoser 2013j	<i>Tropidophis</i> (part)
<i>Wellsboa (Tonsiluaboa)</i>	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013j	<i>Tropidophis hendersoni</i>
<i>Wellsboa (Wellsboa)</i>	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013j	<i>Tropidophis</i> (part)
<i>Wellsboa (Wittboa)</i>	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013j	<i>Tropidophis fuscus</i> , <i>T. pilshryi</i> , <i>T. wrighti</i>
<i>Wellssaurus</i>	gen. nov.	Hoser 2013ac	<i>Zonosaurus boettgeri</i> , <i>Z. maramaintso</i> , <i>Z. maximus</i>
<i>Wellssaurus (Wellssaurus)</i>	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013ac	<i>Zonosaurus boettgeri</i> , <i>Z. maramaintso</i>
<i>Wolfsaurini</i>	trib. nov.	Hoser 2013ac	<i>Zonosaurus maximus</i>
<i>Woolfsaurus</i>	gen. nov.	Hoser 2013ac	<i>Platysaurus pungweensis</i>
<i>Worrellsaurus storri makhani</i>	subsp. nov.	Hoser 2013af	<i>Platysaurus pungweensis</i>
Zonosaurina ^{22,36} [Zonosaurus Boulenger 1887]	subtrib. nov.	Hoser 2013ac	<i>Varanus storri</i>
Zonosaurini ³⁶ [Zonosaurus Boulenger 1887]	trib. nov.	Hoser 2013ac	<i>Zonosaurus</i>
			<i>Zonosaurus</i> , <i>Trachelopychus</i>

¹ Fig. 4 in Vidal and Hedges (2009) shows that Malagasy boine snakes are part of an unresolved polytomy.

² Hoser (2013ad) includes in this group the species *Hypsiturus spinipes* and the genus *Tiaris* Duméril and Bibron 1837 (now known as *H. dilophus*). In the original description of their species *Lophyrus dilophus*, Duméril and Bibron (1837:421) list in their observation section that the name “*Tiare dilophe*” applies to the specimen figured on Plate 46 of their *Atlas*. There, it is denoted as *Tiaris dilophus*. However, the genus name *Tiaris* Duméril and Bibron 1837 was preoccupied by the genus *Tiaris* Swainson 1827, a taxon erected for a genus of songbirds in the tanager family (Thraupidae). The use of this genus in the definition of a tribe is incorrect.

³ The taxon listed here was previously described by Hoser (2012b) and rejected by Kaiser et al. (2013).

⁴ The taxon was also described as *Anitaresia maculosus brentonoloughlini* by Hoser (2004) and rejected by Kaiser et al. (2013).

⁵ The definition of this subgenus by Hoser (2013o) is confusing because of poor grammar, and no species content is formally presented. While the author states that the type species for the subgenus is *Bitis parvitoctula*, the later text appears to confound the subgenera *Macrocerastes* and “*Kuekus*.”

⁶ The entire first paragraph of the putative diagnosis for *Bothrops “mexicoensis”* is a verbatim copy of the diagnosis for *B. “lenhoseri”*. This is also the case for the diagnosis of *B. m. “maccartneyi”*. Furthermore, to indicate a Mexican origin, the proper form for the name would be *mexicoensis*. To create a patronym for an individual with last name McCartney, as stated in the etymology, the proper form is *mccartneyi*.

⁷ The subspecies of *Malayopython reticulatus* listed here were previously described by Hoser (2004) and rejected by Kaiser et al. (2013).

⁸ According to Vidal and Hedges (2009:Fig. 4), “the phylogenetic position of the Pacific Island endemic genus *Candoia* remains uncertain.”

⁹ This taxon was previously described by Hoser (2012b), without the lapsus in spelling. It was rejected by Kaiser et al. (2013).

¹⁰ The taxon listed here was already described by Hoser (2012d) and rejected by Kaiser et al. (2013).

¹¹ Also described as *Chondropython viridis shiiteanae* by Hoser (2004) and rejected by Kaiser et al. (2013).

¹² Given that the name derives from an individual named George Konstandinou, a proper spelling for such a group would be *Georgekonstandinouus*.

¹³ This is the second description of a species named *Gerrhopilus carolinetoseae*. The first was by Hoser (2012a), which was rejected by Kaiser et al. (2013).

¹⁴ Given that the name derives from an individual named Lachlan McConchie, a proper spelling for such a group would be *Mcconchiei*.

¹⁵ The taxon listed here was already described by Hoser (2012c) and rejected by Kaiser et al. (2013).

¹⁶ Also described as *Kairrius fuscus jockyae* by Hoser (2004) and rejected by Kaiser et al. (2013).

¹⁷ A proper name indicating a Bornean origin would be *borneensis*.

¹⁸ A proper name indicating Philippine origin would be *philippinensis*.

¹⁹ The name Macrochelidae is preoccupied by a group of mites.

²⁰ Also described by Hoser (2004) and rejected by Kaiser et al. (2013).

²¹ Hoser (2013ac) lists this as “Subtribe Trachelopychina trib. nov.” The subtribe ending -ina conflicts with the designation of this name as a tribe.

²² Hoser (2013ac) lists this as “Subtribe Zonosaurina trib. nov.” The subtribe ending -ina conflicts with the designation of this name as a tribe.

(2008), to determine which aspects of a body of work are in the purview of science and which are not. Taxonomy is based on data and argument (a scientific process), and if a disagreement occurs over evidence or its interpretation, then alternative taxonomies may coexist. Nomenclature, in contrast, is a system of rules based on general principles, through which the application of taxon names is regulated. It is not based on science, but for the system to be meaningful *there must be sound scientific principles underlying the creation of any new taxon name*. Thus, the workflow for proposing new taxon names automatically and invariably involves first science, using an explicit and transparent scientific process (i.e., a peer-reviewed publication), and then accounting, with all subsequent information regarding the status of a taxon name derived from accounting (Kaiser 2013). While it is true that the *Code* applies only to nomenclature, given its overall presentation (including its *Preamble*, *Introduction*, and *Code of Ethics*), it seems reasonable to assume that reliable scientific processes ought to underlie nomenclature.

The *Code* states that its application will be subservient to the “promotion of stability and universality in the scientific names of animals” (*Preamble* of the *Code*; ICZN, 1999). I interpret this as an attempt by the original authors of the *Code* to ascertain that scientific processes must govern the interactions between taxonomy and the *Code*. In my opinion, that is how Article 8.1.1 must be understood. If it can be shown that scientific principles are violated (i.e., data and argument for the specific case are not merely poorly interpreted, but missing, erroneously or deliberately misrepresented, or entirely outside of acceptable scientific principles), then the taxonomy and names produced by such means are unscientific. Names produced in this manner should therefore be considered nomenclaturally void, and should neither be permitted to receive approval via the *Code*, nor be able to subsequently re-enter the realm of science after having been “laundered” by the *Code* (Kaiser 2013).

The best practices presented by Kaiser et al. (2013) were designed to help taxonomic herpetologists and users of herpetological taxonomy recognize and sort post-2000 taxon names, and the publications in which they appeared, into acceptable and unacceptable columns. These recommendations are universally applicable: a user can take any article and check it against the listed criteria, then make a determination regarding the validity of any taxonomic decision it might contain. Using this approach, Kaiser et al. (2013) were able to declare the post-2000 output by the Australian snake aficionado Raymond Hoser void for nomenclatural purposes and provided a corresponding list of taxon names with nomenclatural validity. The particular issue with Hoser’s output is not only the proposal of taxonomically unfounded and superfluous reptile names (more than 200 in 2013 alone; Hoser 2013a–ag), it includes attacks on professional and non-academic herpetologists who disagree with Hoser’s concept of taxonomy, something I perceive to consist of little more than a competitive naming game to him. Following the publication of Kaiser et al. (2013) in March of 2013, Hoser worked the online social media circuit to discredit the authors and supporters of that paper, along with the journal and its editor, as well as the scientific societies that voted in support of the presented ideas (e.g., Hoser 2013n). His department is in clear violation of the *Code of Ethics* of the *Code*, as has frequently been stated in online venues. This is perhaps most significantly demonstrated by an exchange between Hoser and ICZN Commissioner Douglas Yanega in the listserv *Taxacom* (Hoser 2013ah). These exchanges are the source of gross misinformation about the relevant issues

and scientific processes, and they have caused significant discontentment among taxonomists.

A key issue emerging in this discussion is the position of the *Code* and the ICZN. At their root, the rules and their governing body provide zoological taxonomists with a mechanism for the accounting of taxon names and for resolving disputes arising from the publication of available names. Alas, this mechanism is by design not scientific, and it is perhaps better likened to a system of legal oversight (Kaiser 2013). These entities were not established to influence the scientific processes by which taxonomic decisions are made. While this has fostered the independence of two important regulatory aspects of taxonomy, it has also created a problem: although the nonscientific component is strictly governed, the scientific one is not. I therefore feel I must preface the discussion of the *Code*’s specifics by stating that I am a firm proponent of the scientific process, a grand, yet imperfect human endeavor by which we produce knowledge. If the *Code*, a tool created by scientists for use by scientists to sort out nomenclature, does not unequivocally support this scientific process (which is the ultimate reason for the *Code*’s very existence), then the *Code* becomes irrelevant to science. While the *Code* provides a very valuable service, its application must always be congruent with scientific principles, and not for the protection of the *Code* in and of itself. The *Code* has adapted (e.g., ICZN 2012), and must continue to adapt, to the realities and demands of modern science, and it must do so as the situation demands it (see Harvey and Yanega 2013). The broader issue, therefore, is the use of the scientific method for creating knowledge, and the relevance of the *Code* to that goal.

Article 8.1.1 of the *Code* exemplifies how working within the framework of the *Code* and the ICZN creates challenges for those contending with names produced by taxonomic vandals. This article states that for a work to be considered published for the purposes of zoological nomenclature, “it must be issued for the purpose of providing a public and permanent scientific record” (ICZN 1999). Kaiser et al. (2013) and Schleich (2014) discuss this article in relation to Hoser’s output in the *AJH*. Based on the online discussions that have followed (e.g., on *Facebook* pages and in *Taxacom*), as well as the presentation of *AJH* issues 16–18, it is instructive to revisit the ramifications of this article.

On the surface, glossy presentation and overall production of pseudoscientific^[2] materials, such as the *AJH*, may closely mimic a scientific journal and can lead to confusion on the part of users, particularly in an applied setting where taxonomic minutiae may not be verified (e.g., Wüster and Bernils 2011). On the back pages of the two most recent issues of the *AJH*, it is even stated that articles are published “in a peer reviewed journal for permanent public scientific record” (grammar and spelling as in original). However, presentation and proclamation alone do not a scientific journal make. Even statements touting compliance with scientific rules cannot compensate for a lack of rigor in data presentation. For example, Hoser states multiple times in each issue of the *AJH* that his articles are designed to be “in accordance with the Zoological Code” (e.g., Hoser 2013ac:18), yet they fail scientific principles in even the most basic aspects

[2] Pseudoscience is an attempt to clothe nonscientific fact in scientific attire to validate fictional, non-reproducible information. Pseudoscience does not pose a question and seek an explanation; it begins with the explanation and then seeks supportive data. Pseudoscientific statements are generally easy to recognize by the vocal defense that typically accompanies their presentation, unlike science, where the evidence can speak for itself. In contrast to science, there is no knowledge gained through pseudoscience.

of reproducibility and data disclosure. While Hoser indeed works hard to make the *AJH* a public and permanent record, it is the term “scientific” where he fails the test of Article 8.1.1. In light of this, it is highly questionable whether the *AJH*, in the absence of the *Code*, would ever obtain permanence in the Scientific Record (see Dayrat 2005; Minelli 2005).

Following the best practices of Kaiser et al. (2013), the contents of the *AJH* are clearly noncompliant with broadly accepted scientific standards. From an administrative or oversight perspective, both an editorial board and associate editors are lacking. Hoser’s role as the only contributor creates a conflict of interest for the peer-review process given his role as the *AJH*’s Editor. In terms of editorial quality, a reading of any article in the *AJH* demonstrates that there is no peer review despite Hoser’s attestations to the contrary: no person upholding scientific principles and standards of collegial discourse (not to mention familiarity with English grammar, paragraph structure, or scientific writing) would accept *AJH* contributions (Carraway 2009). A scientific journal is not created by proclamation, but by the consistent production of quality, demonstrably peer-reviewed scientific output.

Regarding the taxonomic details of the articles in *AJH* issues 16–21, Hoser provides ample evidence that the names he proposes are not based on the scientific study of specimens or offered out of scientific necessity, which violates the scientific tenets of taxonomy and eliminates the utility of any resulting names. The main interest of Hoser is to have his proposed names endure, with the help of the *Code*. They are not the products of the scientific process, but generated “for completeness” (e.g., Hoser 2013a:3), which results in names for ranks that are not informative or useful. Indeed, most appear to be named for the sake of naming them: (1) naming clades for which molecular data from peer-reviewed publications may be preliminary or provide weak support, (2) names proposed from holotypes and paratypes that Hoser designates, yet has never examined himself, or (3) listing long strings of in-text citations rather than critically reviewing the relevant data from such papers (invariably ending with the phrase “and sources cited therein;” this occurs 38 times in the 33 papers comprising *AJH* issues 16–21). Hoser even states periodically that he does not want to rehash prior work (e.g., Hoser 2013a:4, 2013z:34, 2013ae:38), even when such work would support his taxonomic proposals.

Some may consider it impossible to differentiate scientific from nonscientific works so that it can be objectively determined which taxonomic decisions should have nomenclatural impact. I disagree. Based on the fundamental processes of science accepted today, developed and refined over centuries, it is a simple task to separate poorly executed science from pseudoscience. These are not matters of free speech or freedom of expression, which in science are restricted by evidence (Kaiser 2013). If it is not science, then it shall not be known as such. This has been amply and successfully demonstrated as evolutionary science defended itself against Intelligent Design, and it is certainly possible and appropriate in applications to taxonomy. This is not just a question of publishing outlet, but more specifically a question of whether basic scientific principles are followed or not.

Perhaps Hoser’s most recent output is *Code*-compliant when it comes to the “public” or “permanent” aspects of Article 8.1.1. After all, the issues of the *AJH* are bound, available for purchase, and are distributed to some public libraries. But the output is by no measure “scientific” and clearly in violation of Appendix A of the *Code* (the *Code of Ethics*).

I have encountered the argument that Hoser’s output merely represents exceptionally poor taxonomy, like that of some taxonomic vandals outside of herpetology, but with the addition of the many slanderous interpersonal transgressions and name-calling, and that over time scientists will correct the record. However, Hoser’s prolific output, which as of this writing includes well over 600 new taxon names since 2000 (the exact number would require close scrutiny because the author tends to describe taxa as new more than once, and he calls higher taxon names “new” even when their authorship was already established according to Article 36 of the *Code*), creates significant instability for users of taxonomy in the herpetological community. Thus, the *Code*, whose explicit mandate includes the oversight of stability of scientific zoological nomenclature, is being co-opted by Hoser as a tool to create confusion in herpetological taxonomy^[3]. The issue of taxonomic vandalism therefore is not merely a matter of working within the *Code* and exploiting its loopholes; it amounts to an example of treasonous conduct in the framework of zoological science.

A significant segment of the herpetological community is on record as rejecting the post-2000 names coined by Hoser (Kaiser et al. 2013), and given that these recommendations are being implemented in recent papers (e.g., Bates et al. 2013; Reynolds et al. 2014; Schleip 2014) and by editors (e.g., Measey 2013), this is likely to become the *status quo* for reptile taxonomy: science forges ahead as nonscience is overwritten. Despite this trend, the position of the *Code* and the ICZN vis-à-vis Hoser’s nomenclature remains unresolved. Those interested in this issue can comment on Case 3601 filed by Hoser (2013ai) to preserve the genus name *Spracklandus* Hoser 2009 (published in the *AJH*) over *Afronaja* Wallach et al. 2009 (published in *Zootaxa*). This could prove to be a landmark case insofar as it pits the value of the scientific process against pseudoscience in nomenclature (Kaiser 2013, 2014).

I assert that one of the best options to resolve the issue of taxonomic vandalism in general, and of the situation described herein in particular, is for the ICZN to use its plenary powers under the *Code* to declare names proposed by Raymond Hoser unavailable for the purposes of nomenclature (Kaiser 2013). To resolve the problem in herpetology, it would suffice to do so with names proposed in the *AJH*, because that is where the most egregious offenses against scientific taxonomy have occurred. While this would not prevent Hoser from launching another outlet, it would set the precedent that the ICZN will not stand by as the system it safeguards is subverted and compromised.

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Note to the reader: In the following list, publications by Raymond Hoser have all errors in punctuation or spelling preserved.

[3] The most recent example for such confusion is listed in the newest edition of *Reptiles and Amphibians of Australia* (Cogger 2014). The author highlights in the account for the genus *Silvascincus* that readers will likely encounter two names for these lizards, of which the earlier name was rejected by Kaiser et al. (2013); in the account, the older name is nevertheless only listed second and in parentheses.

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