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More than a number: clarifying the dates of publication of some papers of A. Doering on land and freshwater shells from Argentina and a note on his taxon *Clessinia* (Odontostomidae)

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Abstract

The dates of publication of ten papers of A. Doering published from 1874–1879 in two Argentinian journals are reviewed. Seven of these papers appear to have been published later than their printed dates suggest. The status of one taxon described in these papers, *Clessinia* Doering, 1875, is clarified.

Keywords: Mollusca, Gastropoda, Orthalicoidea, nomenclature, prioritization

Introduction

One of the cornerstones in zoological nomenclature is the Rule of Priority (Art. 23.1 ICZN (1999)): “The valid name of a taxon is the oldest available name applied to it”). Therefore the date of publication is an important tool for application of this rule, for which Art. 21 gives further guidelines. The dates of publication of older taxonomic works from the 19th century have sometimes been especially disputed, and reconstructions often have to be based on research in libraries resulting in collations for e.g. serial works (examples in malacology e.g. Coan et al. 2012a, 2012b). Much less attention, however, has been given to the publication dates of journals (but see e.g. Winckworth 1936, Duncan 1937, Raphael 1970, Evenhuis 2003). A new date for a publication may lead to a different prioritization of names, and thus a date can be more than just a number.

Adolfo Doering (1848–1926) published in two Argentinian journals a number of papers with notes and descriptions of new land and freshwater Mollusca from that country; these papers appeared between 1874 and 1879 (for a note on biography and bibliography of Doering, see Parodiz 1963). Of a selected number of these papers, however, different publication dates and pagination are cited in literature (Parodiz 1963, Zilch 1971, Neubert & Janssen 2004, Miquel et al. 2007, Miquel & Aguirre 2011, Pizá & Cazzaniga 2012). The aim of this paper is to discuss the publication dates of these selected Doering papers and present some new evidence found. The possible effect on prioritization is illustrated with the case of Doering’s taxon *Clessinia*.

Two journals, one history

The two Argentinian journals in which Doering published his malacological papers were the ‘Boletín de la Academia Nacional de Ciencias Exactas en Córdoba’ (BANC) and the ‘Periódico Zoológico’ (PZ). The complex history of the latter journal during the 1870s has recently been described by Acosta (2006). Both journals originated in Córdoba, where the Academia de Ciencias Exactas de Córdoba had been initiated by law of 11.ix.1869, with several Germans in the ‘initial group’ of professors. The journal BANC was started in 1874, with an introduction signed by Doering on 15.iv.1874. The journal PZ was started in May 1874 by Hendrik Weyenbergh, who had been appointed Professor in Zoology in August 1872, as journal of the ‘Sociedad Entomológica Argentina’. After the first two numbers the name of the Society was changed to ‘Sociedad Zoológica Argentina’ to allow for a broader range of topics. Each volume

consisted of four issues, but due to the difficult political and economic situation at that time, these issues appeared irregularly and each volume spanned more than one year. Moreover, during 1877–1880 several papers that appeared in PZ were duplicated in BANC. Furthermore, the Doering papers that were published in both journals were not always exactly the same (see below), adding to the confusion.

Doering's papers

Doering published the following papers during the 1870s in BANC or PZ, while due to the circumstances above, two papers—describing the same new taxa—were published in both journals; these papers are indicated by asterisks (* and **) below.

Doering, A. (1874a) Apuntamientos sobre la fauna de moluscos de la República Argentina. *Boletín de la Academia Nacional de Ciencias Exactas en Córdoba, Buenos Aires*, 1 (1), 48–77.

Remarks. Parodiz (1963: 4), Zilch (1971: 204), and Miquel & Aguirre (2011: 129) all have the date as 1874; it is not disputed herein. Doering described four new taxa in this paper, after an introduction and annotated list of 85 species known from Argentina. The new taxa should be dated 31 December 1874 according to Art. 21.3.2 ICZN. This paper is available in BHL (<http://www.biodiversityheritagelibrary.org/item/21794>).

Doering, A. (1874b) *Molluscorum terrestrium et fluviatilium fauna argentinae. Enumeration systematica*. *Periódico Zoológico*, 1 (2), 113–120.

Remarks. This is an abridged version of Doering 1874a, listing 89 species. The publication date 1874 follows Acosta (2006: 18), who also gave details on the reprint of this issue with a different pagination. As Acosta has not presented a specified date, this paper should also be dated 31 December 1874 according to Art. 21.3.2 ICZN. This paper is at present not available in BHL.

Doering, A. (“1874” [1875a]) Estudios sistemáticos y anatómicos sobre los moluscos pulmoníferos de los países del Plata. *Periódico Zoológico*, 1 (3), 129–204, Pl. 4.

Remarks. Zilch (1971: 205), Parodiz (1963: 4) and Miquel & Aguirre (2011: 129) cited this paper as 1875; Neubert & Janssen (2004: 245), with reference to Taschenberg (1887: 174), argued that it possibly did not appear until 1877. This seems illogical as Taschenberg (1887: 174) stated that volume 2 appeared in 1875; see also below. A date given in another paper in the same issue (p. 236: comment about a storm on “14 de febrero 1875”) makes clear that volume 1 issue 3 may not have appeared in print before March 1875. On p. 335—following the last article in PZ 1 (4)—the statement “imprimatur a.d. XIV Kal. May 1875” indicates that volume 1 was completed sometime in May 1875. We therefore assume that issue PZ 1 (3) was most likely published between March and May 1875; following Art. 21.3.1 ICZN this paper has to be dated 31 May 1875.

This is a more extended version of Doering 1874a, with description of three new taxa (one at the genus-level and two as new species). This paper is at present not available in BHL.

Doering, A. (“1874” [1875b]) Apuntes sobre la fauna de moluscos de la República Argentina (Segunda parte). *Boletín de la Academia Nacional de Ciencias Exactas en Córdoba, Buenos Aires*, 1 (4), 424–457.

Doering, A. (“1874” [1875c]) Suplementos de la lista de moluscos terrestres y fluviales en el territorio del Río de la Plata y de la República Argentina. *Boletín de la Academia Nacional de Ciencias Exactas en Córdoba [Córdoba]*, Buenos Aires, 1 (4), 457–460.

Remarks. These two papers—by some authors cited as one with pagination 424–459 (460 is a blank page)—were cited by Zilch (1971: 204) as 1874. Neubert & Janssen (2004: 245) argued on the basis of secondary sources (Taschenberg 1887: 174) this should be corrected to 1875; Parodiz (1963: 4), Miquel et al. (2007: 114) and Miquel & Aguirre (2011: 129) concur with this date. There is no further indication of a publication date available from literature or other sources, hence it should be dated 31 December 1875 according to Art. 21.3.2 ICZN.

In Doering 1875b two new generic taxa were described, and 15 at the (sub)specific level. In the Supplement (Doering 1875c) numbers 86–127 are added to the faunal list, with reference to Doering 1874a “(Véase Boletín I 1. 51–59)”. These two papers are at present not available in BHL.

Doering, A. (“1876” [1877a]*) Apuntes sobre la fauna de moluscos de la República Argentina (Tercera parte). *Boletín de la Academia Nacional de Ciencias Exactas en Córdoba, Buenos Aires*, 2 (3), 300–339.

Doering, A. (“1876” [1877b]**) Suplementos II de la lista de moluscos terrestres y fluviales en el territorio del Río de la Plata y de la República Argentina. *Boletín de la Academia Nacional de Ciencias Exactas en Córdoba, Buenos Aires*, 2 (4), 339–340.

Remarks. Parodiz (1963: 4), Zilch (1971: 204), and Neubert & Janssen (2004: 245) all cite these last two works combined as 1876, while the latter argue on the basis of an included citation by Doering of a previous paper [Doering

1875a] and Pfeiffer (1876), that this work “probably was issued late in 1877”. Close reading of Pfeiffer (1876) reveals, however, that he referred to BANC 1(1) [Doering 1874a] and BANC 1(4) [Doering 1875a]. Therefore Pfeiffer’s paper does not give a clue about the publication date of BANC 2 (3–4) as assumed by Neubert & Janssen. Taschenberg (1887: 174) cited issue 3 (p. 204–339) as 1876, and issue 4 (p. 340–425) as 1878. Pizá & Cazzaniga (2012: 407) cited this paper as 1878. Unfortunately, no covers are available for the third issue of the volume, in which the largest part of Doering’s paper (p. 300–339) was published. However, the previous paper is signed for completion “Febrero de 1877” (p. 299). We assume therefore that vol. 2 (3) was published in the second half of 1877. Doering cited at the end of the manuscript, which was published in vol. 2 (4) p. 340, as date of completion “Abril de 1876”; it is therefore likely that he completed this and the following papers [1878a, 1878b] at the same time, but sent them to both journals as the continuation of PZ was doubtful at that time. The title page of volume 2 (4) gives 1878 as publication date. In other papers in the same issue the date “Juillet 1878” is given (p. 380); on p. 414 a letter is reproduced, dated “Mayo 26 de 1878”. Therefore we assume that volume 2 (4) was published in the second half of 1878. As the Suplemento does not contain any new nomina, the date of publication of this part has no nomenclatural significance and we assign it to 1877[b]. The new taxa introduced by Doering all appeared in the first part of the paper in issue 3, thus should be attributed to 1877 in accordance with Art. 21.5 ICZN. The text of both papers is (nearly) identical to PZ 2 (4) [1878a, 1878b].

These papers are available in BHL (<http://www.biodiversityheritagelibrary.org/item/103796>); volume 2 (4) is also available with its original wrappers (<http://www.biodiversityheritagelibrary.org/item/23721>).

Doering, A. (“1875” [1878a]*) Apuntes sobre la fauna de moluscos de la República Argentina (continuación). *Periódico Zoológico*, 2 (4), 219–258.

Doering, A. (“1875” [1878b]**) Suplementos II de la lista de moluscos terrestres y fluviales en el territorio del Río de la Plata y de la República Argentina. *Periódico Zoológico*, 2 (4), 258–259.

Remarks. These two papers were cited by both Miquel & Aguirre (2011: 129) and Pizá & Cazzaniga (2012: 407) as 1877. Contrarily, Taschenberg (1887: 174) cited the publication date as 1875. Doering gave as date of completion of the manuscript “Abril de 1876” (p. 259) at the end of the Supplement [1878b]. In the same issue on p. 267 financial details are given of the Zoological Society of Argentina (publisher of the journal), covering the dates 1.i.1874–1.vii.1877; this indicates that this issue was published after July 1877. Finally, the date “31 de Diciembre de 1877” is mentioned on p. 274 by Weyenbergh for the completion of his manuscript on the Annual Report of the Zoological Museum. Therefore it is likely that this issue was published early in 1878.

In Doering 1878a one genus-level taxon and 21 new species-level taxa are introduced, of which five as varieties. In the Supplement (Doering 1878b) species numbered 128–136 are added to the faunal list. These two papers are available in BHL (<http://www.biodiversityheritagelibrary.org/item/49271>).

Doering, A. (1879) Apuntes sobre la fauna de moluscos de la República Argentina (Cuarta parte). *Boletín de la Academia Nacional de Ciencias Exactas en Córdoba, Buenos Aires*, 3 (1), 63–84.

Remarks. Doering did not sign the manuscript with a completion date; however, the previous paper in the journal was completed “16 de Noviembre de 1878”. Parodiz (l.c.) cited this paper as 1879. There is no reason to doubt the publication date of 1879. There is no further indication of a publication date available from literature or other sources, hence it should be dated 31 December 1879 according to Art. 21.3.2 ICZN.

While the previous papers were largely repetitious with varying extensions of Doering 1874a, this paper was a fresh text with description of 23 new taxa at the species-level. This paper is at present not available in BHL.

On the status of *Clessinia* and *Scalarinella*

The nomenclatural situation

Within the family Odontostomidae (sensu Breure & Romero 2012), two taxa have been described which need further clarification, *Clessinia* Doering 1875 and *Scalarinella* Dohrn 1875. As this case is quite complicated, we need to ravel out the situation for each taxon and compare it to the relevant Articles of the ICZN Code (i.e. Art. 11, 12 and 67.12). Two questions need to be addressed: (1) are both names available names, and (2) what were their dates of publication?

Clessinia was described by Doering (1875a: 201)—as subgenus of *Odontostomus* Beck, 1837—the type species in monotypy *C. stelzneri* Doering being described on the same page with a description. This fulfills all the relevant provisions of the Code. As shown above, this paper was published before 31 May 1875.

For *Scalarinella* this seems to be more complicated. The first question is, is *Scalarinella* an available name? *Scalarinella* was mentioned by Dohrn (1875: 202) as a synonym of *Bulimus* Scopoli, 1786. This was done in a discussion of a species for which Dohrn (1875) used the name *Bulimus cordovanus* Pfeiffer, 1855. In a comment Dohrn added a note

saying “Ich erhielt sie unter den vielleicht auch anderweit in Anwendung gekommenen Manuscriptnamen *Scalarinella Stelzneri* Doering” (literal translation: “I obtained it [the species] under the manuscript name *Scalarinella Stelzneri* Doering, which [name] might perhaps also have come into usage at other occasions.”). The European researcher Dohrn (1875) did apparently not know that the South American researcher Doering (1875) had established *Odontostomus (Clessinia) stelzneri* a few months earlier in an Argentinian journal. However, the name *Scalarinella* was not made available at this occasion because it was only mentioned as a synonym (Art. 11.6) and not used for a taxon (Art. 11.5).

It should be noted that on the same page Dohrn (1875: 202) established another new name as *Bulimulus (Scutalus) stelzneri* and gave a description for it. This was an entirely different species and must not be confounded with *Odontostomus (Clessinia) stelzneri* Doering, 1875.

Pilsbry (1901 [1901–1902]: 66) used *Scalarinella* as a subgenus of *Odontostomus* Beck, 1837, attributed it to “‘Doering’ Dohrn”, and gave a bibliographical reference to Dohrn (1875: 202). By using *Scalarinella* for a taxon Pilsbry made Dohrn's (1875) name admissible under Art. 11.6.1. The criteria of Art. 12.1 were also fulfilled. Dohrn (1875) did not give a description for *Scalarinella*, but combined this name with the available name *Odontostomus (Clessinia) stelzneri* Doering, 1875, and clearly included *Scalarinella* under *Bulimus cordovanus* Pfeiffer, 1855 (Art. 12.2.5). So by Pilsbry's (1901) act *Scalarinella* was made available as *Scalarinella* Dohrn, 1875. Its type species is *Bulimus cordovanus* Pfeiffer, 1855 by monotypy, because this was the only nominal species directly associated with *Scalarinella* by Dohrn (1875) following Art. 67.12¹.

The second question is now what was the date of publication of *Scalarinella*? Dohrn's paper (p. 202–203) appeared in the “Malakozoologische Blätter für 1874” in sheet 13 of volume 22, comprising p. 193–208. Bürk & Jungbluth (1985) gave as publication date 1875, without further specification. “On p. 193–202 and 207–208 and again on pp. 209–219 (forming sheet 14 = the last one of that volume) there is a review of literature which covers works from 1874 to 1875. From 1875 are recorded (on p. 208): Hidalgo, ‘Catalogo iconografico y descriptivo de los moluscos terrestres de España, Portugal y las Baleares, Entrega 1’ (1875), and (on p. 210): Kobelt, ‘Rossmässler Iconographie der Land- und Süßwassermollusken, Band 4, Lieferung 1’, which was published later than May 1875 (foreword dated May 1875). So without doubt these sheets have been published later than May 1875” (R. Janssen, pers. commun.). Since it proved impossible to find a specific date between May and December 1875, the publication of Dohrn's paper has to be dated on 31 December 1875 (Art. 21.3.2 ICZN).

Our conclusion, based on the evidence herein presented, is that Doering's paper was published before Dohrn's publication. The precedence between *Clessinia* and *Scalarinella* can be determined objectively by the different dates of publication (Art. 23.1 ICZN). Thus the name for the taxon to be used must be *Clessinia* Doring, 1875 [31 May 1875] because this name has precedence over *Scalarinella* Dohrn, 1875 [31 Dec 1875].

The interpretation by later authors

As Doering (1875a) signed the manuscript with “Julio de 1874” and the journal was issued with “1874” on the title page, this taxon has been quoted as “Doering, 1874” by subsequent authors (Neave 1939, Hylton Scott 1966, 1967, Schileyko 1999). Pilsbry (1901 [1901–1902]: 66) synonymized *Clessinia* with *Scalarinella* ‘Doering’ Dohrn, 1874, with type species *Bulimus cordovanus* Pfeiffer, 1855; this act was followed by Thiele (1931), Haas (1936), Parodiz (1939, 1944), and Zilch (1960 [1959–1960]).

Pfeiffer already noted in 1875 that Doering's taxon had to be considered a junior subjective synonym of his species *B. cordovanus* (Pfeiffer 1875 [1875–1877]: 105; date according to Coan et al. 2012a); this was by interpretation of Dohrn's text as given above. Pfeiffer's opinion was followed by Pilsbry (1901 [1901–1902]), Holmberg (1912), Parodiz (1939), and Hylton Scott (1966). The latter author was erroneous in considering *Scalarinella stelzneri* ‘Doering’ Dohrn a nomen nudum (Hylton Scott 1966, 1967), but was definitely right in giving priority to *Clessinia*.

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1. For the interpretation of the Example under Art. 67.12.1, it is necessary to know that Meigen (1818: 82) had mentioned a synonym *Palpomyia geniculata* under a species *Ceratopogon flavipes* which is regarded as type species of *Palpomyia* by monotypy under Art. 67.12; thus ‘directly associated’ did not refer to *geniculata* but to *flavipes*, and in the same sense *cordovanus* was directly associated with *Scalarinella*.

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