

The enigmatic case “*Pisidium pulchellum*” (Bivalvia, Sphaeriidae)

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Abstract

Pisidium pulchellum (d’Orbigny, 1835), from Uruguay and region, is a secondary homonym of *P. pulchellum* Jenyns, 1831, from Europe. A new replacement name, *Pisidium dorbignyi* Clessin, 1879 was introduced and is the present correct name. The name *P. dorbignyi* must replace the *P. pulchellum* in Simone (2006: 301, species 1055) and the given figure must not be considered (it is of an European *P. pulchellum*). Brief comments and synonymic list are performed here, including a reproduction of the original figure of *P. dorbignyi*.

DOI: 10.13140/RG.2.2.17040.05126

Keywords: Homonymy, Bivalvia, Taxonomy.

Introduction

The catalogue “Land and Freshwater Molluscs of Brazil” (Simone, 2006) is my most cited paper. It was a 12-year of effort for inventorying all Brazilian mainland malacofauna, including a try to include referenced of all papers dealing with it. Despite it has been done very carefully, and with total scientific rigor, perfection is impossible, and sometimes I found little mistakes which has been reported. Most of them were already reported in papers (Lee, 2007) and corrigenda (Simone, 2008), however, unfortunately errors are continuing to be found. This paper refers to another case involving a species of Sphaeriidae named *Pisidium pulchellum*.

In Simone (2006: 301), *Pisidium pulchellum* appears as authored by d’Orbigny (1835), the shown figure is of a specimen from Denmark (fig. 1055), and *P. dorbignyi* Clessin, 1879 is in its synonymy.

Actually, the name *Pisidium pulchellum* was already described by Jenyns (1831: 105) from Europe. The d’Orbigny’s species was described in the genus *Cyclas*, but, when it was transferred to the genus *Pisidium* (Prime, 1865: 70), it became secondary homonym of the Jenyns’ species.

Clessin (1879: 62-63) have detected that and introduced a new replacement name, *Pisidium D'Orbigny*, now known as *P. dorbignyi*.

Then, there is a *Pisidium pulchellum* Jenyns, 1831, which is valid and occurs in Europe, and the *Pisidium pubchellum* (d'Orbigny, 1833), a seconcdary homonym, which was replaced by *P. dorbignyi* Clessin, 1879.

The Simone's (2006: 301) fig. 1055 is, then, of the true *P. pulchellum* Jenyns, as the specimen is from Denmark.

In Simone (2006: 301) the species' name # 1055 must be replaced by *Pisidium dorbignyi* Clessin, 1879 (already there in the synonymy). The illustration must be disregarded, and replaced by the images by side (Fig. 1), obtained from d'Orbigny's (1835) original description.

Unfortunately, I have not found the types of *Cyclas pulchella* d'Orbigny in my trips to The Natural History Museum in London, so I cannot illustrate it better.

A more formal taxonomical treatment follows:

***Pisidium dorbignyi* Clessin, 1979**

(Fig 1)

Cyclas pulchella d'Orbigny, 1835 (Synopsis): 44 (var. *major*, 5.0 mm, from Concepción, Chile; var. *minor*, 3.5 mm, from Maldonado, Uruguay); 1846(Voyage): 568 (pl. 83, figs. 8-10) (from Maldonado, Uruguay).

Pisum pulchellum: Deshayes, 1853: 283.

Musculium pulchellum: H & A Adams, 1858: 452.

Sphaerium pulchellum: Prime, 1860: 297.

Pisidium pulchellum: Prime, 1865: 70-71 (non Jenyns, 1831); Simone, 2006: 301.

Pisidium D'Orbigny Clessin, 1879 (nom. nov.): 62-63 (pl. 7, figs. 3-4).

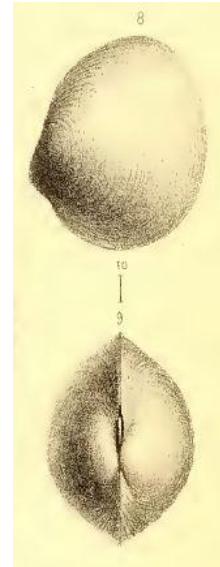
Pisidium dorbignyi: Pilsbry, 1911: 603; Simone, 2006: 301 (in syn.)

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1. *Cyclas pulchella*. Image from d'Orbigny (1833), extracted from plate 83, figs. 8-9 (L ~3 mm).

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