

SSAR's Standardized Names List Guidelines for Selecting Scientific Names

With this edition of the list (and each subsequent revision) we include these guidelines to inform readers about how taxonomic names are selected for inclusion in each species' entry.

- 1) For each edition of the List, the starting point is the previous edition.
- 2) The taxonomic notes for each taxon will contain a statement that "Taxonomy is based on...", and it will cite relevant publications. Here, "published" refers to papers appearing in peer-reviewed journals and that follow the definition used by the International Code of Zoological Nomenclature (ICZN, 2000, Article 8).
- 3) For each name, if there have been no published proposed taxonomic changes since the previous edition of the list and the names are not considered to be in flux or debate, the name appears as in the previous edition.
- 4) If changes have been proposed in the peer-reviewed published literature since the previous edition of the list or were being debated at the time of publication for the previous edition, the relevant subcommittees will review all pertinent literature and collectively reach a consensus regarding how to present that information. Any debates will be summarized in that taxon's entry and the alternative names in use will be presented.
- 5) The general process for selecting names that are being debated is as follows: Any taxonomic change(s) published since the last revision must be based upon rigorous analyses of robust data and logically sound interpretations of those data. The new list will feature a brief summary of the published arguments relevant to the debate and the subcommittee will reach a consensus on what appears in the list.
- 6) To avoid duplicate entries the committee will select one of the taxonomic names to use for that species in the current list. In selecting a name, a subcommittee may use any published data and/or results, even though the author(s) did not propose a taxonomic change.
- 7) The proposal of new taxonomic names (including new combinations) will generally be avoided, although exceptions will be permitted to correct errors and oversights in the published literature.

We encourage any readers that have suggestions for revision to please send those to the Chair of the committee (currently Dr. Kirsten E. Nicholson: nicho2ke@cmich.edu).