New Name for a Generic Homonym in Caenidae (Ephemeroptera)

Sun and McCafferty (2001) established a new genus in the mayfly family Caenidae (Ephemeroptera) that is presently known from one species from Madagascar. The name given to this genus was Callistina Sun and McCafferty. This genus is uniquely characterized among the family Caenidae, for example in the larvae, by the lack of ocellar tubercles, development of the maxillary and labial palps, extensive ridges and pits on the head, a general absence of long marginal setae, extremely minute ventral microtrichiae on the operculate gills, and a posterior mediolongitudinal abdominal ridge. Unfortunately, we recently learned from J. G. Peters of Florida A&M University that the name Callistina had been proposed previously for a fossil genus of Mollusca by Jukes-Browne (1908). Because our original name is therefore preoccupied, we propose Callistellina Sun and McCafferty, new name, to replace the junior homonym Callistina Sun and McCafferty. 2001:8, nec Callistina Jukes-Browne, 1908: 156. The new name is a slight modification of the original, meaning a "most beautiful sea nymph," which alludes to the highly contrasting color pattern of the larva, which is unusual among the Caenidae.

Literature Cited


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