Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature 181

accepted since 1964, and have been used in over a dozen publications. To avoid the introduction of a new generic name I propose to choose a new type-species for *Democriceiodon*. Of course the best choice would be the species which Fahlbusch, 1964 actually meant as the type-species, and which remains without a name after *C. minor* is assigned to the small *Megariceiododon*. Schaub, 1925 described the populations from La Grive and Sansan as different subspecies, an opinion with which I fully agree. The material from Sansan should be regarded as a subspecies of *C. brevis*, and I propose to call it *Democriceiodon brevis crassus* nomen novum. The holotype shall be the maxilla with M1–M2 which Fahlbusch, 1964 figures on page 22, fig. 7, as the lectotype of *D. minor*. Since *D. brevis crassus* and *D. minor* sensu Fahlbusch have the same type specimen there can be no doubt that *Democriceiodon brevis crassus* is the same species as the one that Fahlbusch actually meant to be the type-species of *Democriceiodon*. Thus, if *Democriceiodon brevis crassus* is chosen as the type-species of the genus *Democriceiodon*, the concept of this genus is maintained exactly in its original way.

(g) If the International Commission agrees with the above arguments, I request that it:

1. use its plenary powers to set aside all designations of type-specimen for *Cricetodon minus* Lartet, 1851, and having done so to designate the specimen described in para. (e) above as neotype of that species;
2. use its plenary powers to set aside all designations of type-species for the nominal genus *Democriceiodon* Fahlbusch, 1964, made prior to the present Ruling and having done so, to designate *Democriceiodon brevis crassus* nom. nov. to be the type-species of that genus;
3. to place the generic name *Democriceiodon* Fahlbusch, 1964 (gender: masculine), type-species, by designation under the plenary powers in (2) above, *Democriceiodon brevis crassus*, on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology;
4. to place the following specific names on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology:
   (a) *minus* Lartet, 1851, as published in the binomen *Cricetodon minus*, as interpreted by the neotype designated in (1) above;
   (b) *crassus* Freudenthal, 1968, as published in the combination *Democriceiodon brevis crassus* (type-species of *Democriceiodon* Fahlbusch, 1964).

**OPINION IN THE QUESTION “WHAT IS CRICETODON MINOR LARTET, 1851?”**

By V. Fahlbusch

quite accepted by all my colleagues. However, since the publication of my paper no new aspects have turned up. The arguments explained by Freudenthal (1965) in his paper: Betrachtungen über die Gattung Cricetodon (Proc. Kon. Nederl. Akad. Wetensch., Ser. B, 68, 5) do not give any new view-points. Therefore I feel I should stick to my opinions and conclusions as published in 1964. In addition I would like to make the following points:

(i) Until 1964 no type specimen for Cricetodon minor Lartet, 1851 had been designated.

(j) No author doubts the existence of two small species of "Cricetodon" (now: Democricetodon and Megacricketodon) in Sansan, nor is there any doubt that Lartet had material of both species and took them together under the name "Cricetodon minus".

(k) The only material from Sansan, that, according to colleagues in Paris, may be assumed to belong to the original collection of Lartet, is the collection in the Paris Museum, which I mentioned in my publication (1964, page 13).

(l) From this original material of Lartet a lectotype was chosen according to Art. 74 of the International rules of zoological nomenclature. The recommendation 74 A had to remain unconsidered because only one of the two species was present in this material. It was not possible to designate a neotype, because syntypes were still available.

All other arguments as exposed by Dr. Freudenthal, like small differences in size, abundance at the locality Sansan, figures in later publications, etc. are without importance in this connection.

I therefore request that the Commission:

place the specific name minus Lartet, 1851, as published in the binomen Cricetodon minus, as interpreted by the lectotype designated by Fahlbusch, 1964, on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology.

**Literature**


FORSYTH MAJOR, J. 1891. Some rodents from the Middle Miocene lacustrine deposits of Oeningen. Geol. Mag. 6 : 363-373, 2 figs., pl. 17


*GERVAIS, P. 1859. Zoologie et Poléontologie françaises. 2e edition. viii + 544 pp., figs., atlas, 84 pls.


The most important literature is indicated with a *.