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[Retic Reclassed](#)

 by [Burmbuddy](#) on Tue Dec 02, 2008 9:07 am

Hi guys!

Don't know if you guys have seen this, but retics have been reclassified, they are no longer Python reticulatus, but are now classified as Broghammerus reticulatus.

This might help with some of the proposed bans in the US as the species cited there is Python reticulatus. So if a ban is passed with this taxonomy it will mean having to redraft a bill and having to go through a whole process again to get it passed with the new taxonomy. Might buy the guys over there some time.

Always interesting when stuff like this happens. Will prob be reclassified again in future, but DNA doesn't lie...but I do feel this new genus fits a bit better, timor pythons are something else and remind one more of a retic than say a burm IMO.

Anyway, thought you guys might find this interesting...

Cheers

DAN

[Burmbuddy](#)

SA Reptiles Member


Posts: 472

Joined: Tue Sep 12, 2006 7:33 pm

Location: Strand-Western Cape

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Re: Retic Reclased

 by [snake_freak](#) on Tue Dec 02, 2008 11:19 am

WHAT?!?! I thought Broghammerus was one of Hoser's crazy ideas. Is there a recent paper? Have you got a reference for this?



[snake_freak](#)

SA Reptiles Member

Posts: 249


Joined: Tue Oct 18, 2005 10:34 pm

Location: Adelaide, Australia

- [Website](#)

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Re: Retic Reclased

 by [snake_freak](#) on Tue Dec 02, 2008 11:42 am

Ok, found it.

Python phylogenetics: inference from morphology and mitochondrial DNA

LESLEY H. RAWLINGS, DANIEL L. RABOSKY, STEPHEN C. DONNELLAN, MARK N. HUTCHINSON

Biological Journal of the Linnean Society

Volume 93, Issue 3 , Pages603 - 619

Wow. Interesting but I still reckon Broghammerus is a stupid sounding name. Sounds like the name of a character off of some dungeons and dragons game.



[snake_freak](#)

SA Reptiles Member

Posts: 249

Joined: Tue Oct 18, 2005 10:34 pm

Location: Adelaide, Australia

- [Website](#)

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Re: Retic Reclased

 by [WW](#) on Tue Dec 02, 2008 1:32 pm

*snake_freak wrote:*WHAT?!?! I thought Broghammerus was one of Hoser's crazy ideas. Is there a recent paper? Have you got a reference for this?

It was one of Hoser's crazy ideas - however, if you fire a shotgun often enough, you will eventually hit something. The authors of the DNA study found that reticulatus and timoriensis were more closely related to Aussie pythons than to the genus Python sensu stricto. That meant that they had to be in a different genus, and Hoser's was the oldest available name for that genus. Hoser named a different genus for just about every single python species known to science, as always without a hint of evidence. However, because the names are in the system, any later evidence-based splitting of the old genus Python was almost guaranteed to force the unfortunate later authors to use one of his names - and Rawlings et al. had to swallow that pill. I gather they were less than chuffed at having to use "Broghammerus" as the genus name for the retic...

Stefan Broghammer, after whom the genus is named, is a German python breeder.

Cheers,

WW

patience *n.* the vice of accepting the unacceptable, thereby encouraging further occurrences

[WW](#)


SA Reptiles Member

Posts: 275

Joined: Wed Aug 09, 2006 3:21 pm

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Re: Retic Reclased

by [Burmbuddy](#) on Tue Dec 02, 2008 2:21 pm

Ja, this is interesting wonder how long they are going to wait before reclassing them...lol...going the same way as corns....

Personally i think they should just make them Python awesome...

Cheers

DAN

[Burmbuddy](#)

SA Reptiles Member

Posts: 472

Joined: Tue Sep 12, 2006 7:33 pm

Location: Strand-Western Cape

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Re: Retic Reclased

by [Burmbuddy](#) on Tue Dec 02, 2008 2:26 pm

Man, that sounded like a 10 year old...LOL

O well, its out there now...

Cheers

DAN

[Burmbuddy](#)

SA Reptiles Member

Posts: 472

Joined: Tue Sep 12, 2006 7:33 pm

Location: Strand-Western Cape

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Re: Retic Reclased

by [snake_freak](#) on Tue Dec 02, 2008 2:42 pm

I thought that proposed name changes had to be published in a peer reviewed journal for them to be recognised by the ICZN. Couldn't the authors have given the genus a new name seen that Hoser's description was from "Crocodilian" (which, as far as I know, is just a herp society newsletter)?



[snake_freak](#)

SA Reptiles Member

Posts: 249

Joined: Tue Oct 18, 2005 10:34 pm

Location: Adelaide, Australia

- [Website](#)

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Re: Retic Reclassed

 by [boing](#) on Tue Dec 02, 2008 4:14 pm

Bill Branch told me in February about the name change, and we have been using it ever since...

[viewtopic.php?f=42&t=9205](#)

There is an art, or rather a knack to flying. The knack lies in learning how to throw yourself at the ground and miss. ~ Douglas Adams, *Hitchhikers Guide to the Galaxy*



[boing](#)

SA Reptiles Member

Posts: 403

Joined: Mon Feb 05, 2007 12:18 pm

Location: Port Elizabeth


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Re: Retic Reclassed

 by [WW](#) on Tue Dec 02, 2008 4:57 pm

boing wrote: Bill Branch told me in February about the name change, and we have been using it ever since...

This is probably going to be one case where I will break with the habit of a lifetime and just use the common name... 

Cheers,

WW

patience *n.* the vice of accepting the unacceptable, thereby encouraging further occurrences

[WW](#)

SA Reptiles Member

Posts: 275

Joined: Wed Aug 09, 2006 3:21 pm

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[Re: Retic Reclased](#)

 by [Snakes4Africa](#) on Tue Dec 02, 2008 5:10 pm

So its no longer a Python. I wonder if the snakes know...
Pain is temporary

[Snakes4Africa](#)

SA Reptiles Member

Posts: 312


Joined: Mon Apr 09, 2007 6:09 pm

Location: Durban

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[Re: Retic Reclased](#)

 by [Bushviper](#) on Tue Dec 02, 2008 7:30 pm

Yeah the name does not roll off the tongue the way "retic" does. Guess I will avoid using the latin name in the same way Chondro has never died out of my vocabulary.
It is easier to ask for forgiveness than permission.

Those who are afraid to ask are ashamed of learning.



[Bushviper](#)

Founder Member

Posts: 9371

Joined: Fri Jul 15, 2005 10:02 am

Location: Pretoria

- [Website](#)

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[Re: Retic Reclased](#)

 by [WW](#) on Tue Dec 02, 2008 8:18 pm

snake_freak wrote: I thought that proposed name changes had to be published in a peer reviewed journal for them to be recognised by the ICZN. Couldn't the authors have given the genus a new name seen that Hoser's description was from "Crocodilian" (which, as far as I know, is just a herp society newsletter)?

Unfortunately, there is no requirement for peer review for new genera, species etc. under ICZN Code regulations. If it's published in print in a manner that assures availability of the publication, that's all that's required. And the ICZN does not adjudicate on published descriptions - that's down to biological evidence, not rule-making. The Commission merely acts as an interpreter of the regulations of the Code where their interpretation is ambiguous, or would destabilise the nomenclature.

If the available evidence supports a new name, then it will become used by others, if it doesn't, then it will get forgotten. "Broghammerus" had remained unused because Hoser provided no evidence that justified recognising it as a new genus. Now Rawlings et al. have provided evidence that justify its recognition, so I guess it will become more widely used.

Cheers,

WW

patience *n.* the vice of accepting the unacceptable, thereby encouraging further occurrences

[WW](#)

SA Reptiles Member

Posts: 275

Joined: Wed Aug 09, 2006 3:21 pm

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