

## Review articles

***Renicola lari* – *Nephromonorcha lari*; which species name is correct?****Teresa Pojmańska, Katarzyna Niewiadomska**

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**ABSTRACT.** The authors present problems associated with the taxonomic position of the nominal species *Renicola lari* Timon-David, 1933.

The aim of this short note is to correct an error made in our book on the parasitic helminths of Poland [1]. All three authors of this book used the Fauna Europaea database [2] as a source of taxonomic and nomenclatural data. In this database, the species of digenean described by Timon-David [3] as *Renicola lari* Timon-David, 1933 is located in the genus *Nephromonorcha* Leonov, 1958 ([http://www.faunaeur.org/full\\_results.php?id=391038](http://www.faunaeur.org/full_results.php?id=391038)).

The taxonomic history of the family Rencolidae Dollfus 1939, as described by Gibson in the Keys to the Trematoda [4], is quite complex. This family was created for the genus *Renicola* Cohn, 1904, which now contains a very large number of species from the kidneys of birds. Subsequently, several other nominal rencolid genera and subgenera have been erected. Gibson [4] retained only two valid genera within the family: *Renicola* Cohn, 1904, with two synonyms, *Stomparia* Neslobinsky, 1926 and *Pseudorenicola* Odening, 1962, and (“with some degree of hesitance”) *Nephromonorcha* Leonov, 1958, with the synonym *Neorenicola* Odening, 1962.

In our opinion, these two genera differ in the number of testes (two for *Renicola* and one for *Nephromonorcha*) and in the number, size and position of the vitelline follicles (small, numerous and in long, band-like lateral fields for *Renicola* versus large, not numerous and in clusters at the level of the ventral sucker for *Nephromonorcha*). In our judgment, based on these features in specimens from Poland and the original description by Timon-

David [3], this places *Renicola lari* in *Renicola* and not *Nephromonorcha*, where has mainly been allocated in recent years. It is not clear who originally transferred the species *Renicola lari* Timon-David, 1933 to *Nephromonorcha*, but it may have been Bartoli, since this combination was used twice by Bartoli in 1989 [5,6]. This appears to have been followed by the Fauna Europaea, the European Register of Marine Species and the World Register of Marine Species. It is not clear why Bartoli used this combination, since Prevot & Bartoli in 1978 [7] figured the same species, as *Renicola lari*, and Bartoli & Gibson [8] also used this original combination recently.

The situation is complicated by the fact that Vaidova [9] erected *Neorenicola lari* Vaidova, 1970, which was later transferred to *Nephromonorcha* by Groschafft in 1982 [10] (this was repeated by Sudarikov and Sten’ko [11] in 1984), but attributed to Groschafft by Sudarikov et al. [12] in 1985, thus forming the name *Nephromonorcha lari* (Vaidova, 1970) Groschafft, 1982, which is pre-occupied by *Nephromonorcha lari* (Timon-David, 1933) Bartoli 1989 [5,6]. It is possible that the presence of this secondary homonym may have confused Bartoli into thinking that ‘*R. lari* Timon-David’ had been transferred to *Nephromonorcha*.

According to Gibson [13], Vaidova’s taxon has yet to be re-named. We, therefore, propose the name: ***Nephromonorcha vaidovae* nom. nov.** with the synonyms: *Neorenicola lari* Vaidova, 1970 and *Nephromonorcha lari* (Vaidova, 1970) Groschafft, 1982.

In conclusion, we reiterate that there is a mistake in our book [1] and that this error has subsequently been repeated in several Polish publications, i.e. Niewiadomska and Pojmańska 2008 [14], Pojmańska and Niewiadomska 2011, 2014 [15,16] and Okulewicz 2014 [17]. So far in Poland, only two species of renicolid, namely: *R. pinguis* (Mehlis, 1831) Cohn 1904, and *Renicola lari* Timon-David, 1933 has been recorded.

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