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***Typhliasina* Whitley 1951, an unneeded replacement name for *Typhlias* Hubbs 1938 (Ophidiiformes: Dinematchthyidae)**

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Hubbs (1938) described *Typhlias pearsei*, representing both a new genus and species of blind cusk-eel (Ophidiiformes: Dinematchthyidae) from freshwater caves and sinkholes of the Yucatán peninsula of Mexico. Whitley (1951:67) proposed *Typhliasina* as a replacement name for *Typhlias*, citing a list of zoological names published by Neave (1950:284), but did not mention the taxon and author to which the putative senior homonym belonged. Cohen and Nielsen (1978:60) treated *Typhliasina* as a junior synonym of *Ogilbia* Jordan & Evermann 1898 in their provisional classification of the Ophidiiformes, wherein they mentioned that *Typhlias* Hubbs 1938 is preoccupied by *Typhlias* Bryce 1910 in rotifers. *Typhlias* Bryce 1910 has subsequently been given as the senior homonym in three important works: the FAO species catalog of ophidiiform fishes (Nielsen & Cohen 1999:134), *Checklist of the Freshwater Fishes of South and Central America* (Nielsen 2003:507), and a revisionary study (Møller *et al.* 2004:186) in which *Typhliasina* is resurrected from the synonymy of *Ogilbia*. However, a careful reading of Neave (1950) and Bryce (1910) reveals a fact that had apparently been overlooked: *Typhlias* Bryce 1910 is not an available name, but a lapsus for *Typhlina* Ehrenberg 1831.

Ehrenberg proposed the name *Typhlina* for a genus of blind (hence the name) rotifers from a pool near Cairo, Egypt. The written description appeared in Hemprich & Ehrenberg (1831: unnumbered page 21). A plate illustrating the type species, *T. viridis*, was published earlier (Hemprich & Ehrenberg 1828: pl. 1, fig. 17a); this plate would later be bound with the 1831 text in most institutional copies (Bauer 2000:10). In 1910, Bryce commented on the validity of *Typhlina*, noting that other microbiologists believe the genus was “founded on imperfect observations of animals which, if again seen, have been referred to other groups of the Rotifera” (p. 62). *Typhlina* is mentioned three times on this page and is correctly spelled each time. On page 81, the type species of *Typhlina* is mentioned, but it is spelled “*Typhlias viridis*.” Clearly, *Typhlias* is a lapsus for *Typhlina*.

From 1939 to 1950, entomologist Sheffield Airey Neave edited the first five volumes of *Nomenclator Zoologicus*, a record of the bibliographical origins of the names of every genus and subgenus in zoology published since the 10th edition of Linnaeus’ *Systema Naturae* in 1758. *Typhlina* appeared in volume four as: “**Typhlina** Ehrenberg 1831 (pls. 1828),” with the earlier year referring to the plates (Neave 1940:600). Volume five contains two entries: “**Typhlias** (pro *Typhlina* Ehrenberg 1828) Bryce 1910, J. Quekett micros. Club., (2) 11, no. 67, 81” and “**Typhlias** Hubbs 1938” (Neave 1950:284). The precise meaning of the Latin suffix *pro-* in the first entry is not clear, but it could mean “for,” in which case it may be indicating that Neave regarded *Typhlias* as a lapsus for *Typhlina*. Note that the cited page number (81) is where the lapsus occurred. (Note also that Neave changed the date from 1831 to 1828, perhaps dating the name to the plate.)

It appears that Whitley misread Neave’s volume five entry, believing it to mean that Bryce renamed *Typhlina* to *Typhlias* in 1910. Upon consulting Bryce’s paper, however, it is clear that he did not. Today, the online Rotifer World Catalog regards *Typhlina* Ehrenberg 1831 as “genus inquirendum et incertae sedis” and a junior homonym of *Typhlina* Wagler 1830 in Reptilia (Jersabek & Leitner 2013). The misspelling “*Typhlias*” is not mentioned.

Since *Typhlias* Bryce 1910 is not an available name, it cannot be a senior homonym of *Typhlias* Hubbs 1938. Therefore, *Typhliasina* Whitley 1951 is an unneeded replacement, and the generic name of this unique blind, cave-dwelling cusk-eel should return to the one it was originally given in 1938.

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