

***Charaxes (Euxanthe) crossleyi ansorgei* (Rothschild, 1903) (Nymphalidae: Charaxinae): a junior secondary homonym in need of a replacement name**

Published online: 10 March 2022

Thomas Desloges  Email: thomasdesloges@hotmail.com 407 John St., Sudbury, Ontario, Canada P3E 1R4

Copyright © Lepidopterists' Society of Africa and Thomas Desloges

Abstract: This note provides a replacement name for *Charaxes (Euxanthe) crossleyi ansorgei* (Rothschild, 1903).

INTRODUCTION

In their phylogenetic study of several genera of Charaxinae (Lepidoptera, Nymphalidae), Aduse-Poku *et al.* (2009) demonstrated that the genus *Charaxes* Ochsenheimer, 1816 is paraphyletic, including the previously recognized genera *Polyura* Billberg, 1820 and *Euxanthe* Hübner, 1819. As a result, both *Polyura* and *Euxanthe* were synonymised as sub-genera within *Charaxes* in their proposed classification.

Euxanthe crossleyi ansorgei Rothschild & Jordan, 1903 was described based on a single male specimen supplied to the Tring Museum by the prolific collector, Dr. William John Ansorge, who served as District Medical Officer in Uganda from 1892 (Sclater, 1914, p. 138). The specimen originated from "Patsho, Nandi Country, Uganda Protectorate" (Rothschild & Jordan, 1903, p. 342) a locality which is in the Nandi Forest (van Someren (1975: 85), now within the present-day borders of Kenya.

Euxanthe. c. ansorgei had remained without nomenclatural change since its original description. *Charaxes (Euxanthe) crossleyi ansorgei* (Rothschild & Jordan, 1903) is now an invalid name since *Charaxes (Charaxes) ansorgei* Rothschild, 1897 has priority as the senior homonym. Only one other name has been associated with this subspecies: *E. c. ansorgei babingtoni* Stoneham, 1943; an infrasubspecific designation which Stoneham expressly applied to a particular female form of *ansorgei*. This name is therefore unavailable. Consequently, following ICZN Code (ICZN, 1999) article 60.3, *Charaxes (Euxanthe) crossleyi ansorgei* (Rothschild, 1903), a junior secondary homonym without available synonyms, requires a replacement name.

Taxonomic Change: *Charaxes (Euxanthe) crossleyi williamjohni* Desloges (*nom. nov.*)

Etymology: Over the years, Dr. Ansorge amassed a considerable nomenclatural legacy with several dozens of species named in his honour, including birds, fish, reptiles, and at least nine other recognized species/subspecies of Afrotropical butterfly. The replacement name for *ansorgei*

Rothschild & Jordan, 1903 recognises his given names.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The author thanks Adam Cotton for his invaluable guidance in navigating the intricacies of the ICZN Code, and also Steve Collins and Mark Williams.

LITERATURE CITED

- ADUSE-POKU, K., VINGERHOEDT, E., & WAHLBERG, N. 2009. Out-of-Africa again: A phylogenetic hypothesis of the genus *Charaxes* (Lepidoptera: Nymphalidae) based on five gene regions. *Molecular Phylogenetics and Evolution* **53**(2): 463–478. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ympev.2009.06.021>
- ROTHSCHILD, W. 1897. Descriptions of some new species and subspecies of Lepidoptera. *Novitates Zoologicae* **4**: 179–184.
- ROTHSCHILD, W., & JORDAN, K. 1903. A Monograph of *Charaxes* and the allied prionopterous genera. *Novitates Zoologicae* **10**: 326–342.
- SCLATER, WILLIAM LUTLEY, Ed. 1914. Obituary. *The Ibis* **10**(1): 133–139.
- STONEHAM, H. F. 1943. New forms of lepidoptera of the sub-family Charaxidinae, from East Africa. *Bulletin of the Stoneham Museum* (**46**): 2pp.
- STONEHAM, H.F. 1947. *Catalogue of type specimens of African Lepidoptera*. Stoneham Museum, Kenya.
- ICZN (INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON ZOOLOGICAL NOMENCLATURE) 1999. International Code of Zoological Nomenclature. Fourth Edition. *The International Trust for Zoological Nomenclature*, London. <https://code.iczn.org/?frame=1> [Accessed 30th December 2021]
- VAN SOMEREN, V.G.L. 1975. Revisional notes on African *Charaxes*, *Palla* and *Euxanthe* (Lepidoptera: Nymphalidae). Part X. *Bulletin of the British Museum (Natural History)* (Entomology) **32**: 65–136.
- WILLIAMS, M. C. 2021. Afrotropical Butterflies, Genus *Charaxes* other subgenera [PDF file]. <https://www.metamorphosis.org.za/articlesPDF/1135/390a%20Genus%20Charaxes%20other%20subgenera.pdf> [Accessed 30th December 2021]
- WILLIAMS, M. C. 2021. Afrotropical Butterflies, Genus *Charaxes* subgenus *Charaxes* [PDF file]. <https://www.metamorphosis.org.za/articlesPDF/1278/390%20Genus%20Charaxes%20subgenus%20Charaxes.pdf> [Accessed 30th December 2021].

Received: 22 January 2022

Accepted: 12 February 2022

Copyright: This work is licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-NoDerivs 4.0 International License. To view the license visit: <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/4.0/>