

PROPOSALS TO AMEND THE CODE

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(056) Proposal to limit the scope of Recommendation 60C.2

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(056) In Rec. 60C.2, remove “murielae for Muriela or Muriel.” — In the St. Louis edition of the *ICBN* (Greuter & al., *Regnum Veg.* 138. 2000) Muriel has been added to Recommendation 60C.2. as a further example of a female personal name with a well-established Latinized form (‘Muriela’), for which the appropriate substantive epithet should be *murielae*, rather than *murieliae*. Consequently Recommendation 60C.1 does not apply, and correction of the termination of the epithet *Fargesia murielae* (Gamble) Keng f. to *Fargesia murieliae*, as otherwise required under Article 60.11, is no longer permitted.

Applying the Tokyo Code, the epithet had already been changed to *F. murieliae* in scientific and horticultural circles, since 1995. This bamboo is an important ornamental species in the west, and a major food source for the Giant Panda in China. If Muriel is allowed to stand as a new example of a name for which Rec. 60C.2 would apply, then the name *F. murieliae* will have to be changed back to *F. murielae*. Moreover, as the ‘well-established’ Latinized form of the name Muriel is so extremely rare, the addition of this name as an example contradicts the wording of the Recommendation, and greatly expands its applicability.

Muriel is an ancient Celtic name, interpreted as ‘shining like the sea’. Searches of lists of modern and historic European personal names have failed to find a name Muriela. The epithet *murielae* is not common either. There are only two other validly published examples. *Rosa murielae*, also named after Muriel Wilson, was applied to an obscure plant of no horticultural or ecological interest. *Gladiolus murielae* Hort., named after Muriel Erskine, is apparently the correct name in *Gladiolus* for the species better known as *G. callianthus* Marais or *Acidanthera bicolor* Hochst. (*Goldblatt in FTEA Iridaceae*: 84. 1996). However, like *F. murielae*, the spelling has already been corrected in at least some horticultural use to *G. murieliae* (*RHS New Encycl. Gard. Pl.*: 484, 573. 1999; *Readers’ Digest New Encycl. Gard. Pl.*: 291. 1997).

Muriela is such an extremely rare Latinized form

that the inclusion of Muriel as an example would effectively mean that practically all given names would have to be considered to have a well-established Latinized form. Internet search engines reveal that use of each of the ‘Latinized forms’ of names such as Bess, Morag, and Maud is more common than the use of Muriela. Demoulin’s motion at the St. Louis Congress to treat all such names as having well-established Latinized forms was rejected (*Englera* 20: 211–217. 2000), but inclusion of Muriel as an example would appear to be having exactly the same effect. Limiting the number of personal names that are considered to have Latinized forms under Recommendation 60C.2 is desirable, as epithets based on them can have two different spellings dependent on the original author’s choice, thus reducing standardisation.