(214–216) Proposals to add examples of correct usage of Latin compounds to Article 23

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My analogous proposal (in Taxon 59: 984. 2010) was refused as descriptive and partly grammatically incorrect six years ago. Therefore I now formulate it non-descriptively and explain the grammatical background.

I propose that Art. 23.5 and Examples 5–8 be extended to comply with Latin language usage.

Nouns in the first declension ending -gena are derived from the verb nasci. Adjectives ending -genus, -a, -um are derived from the verb gignere. The noun alpigena,-ae,-um are derived from the adjective alpigenus,-a,-um means bearing the Alps, which is nonsense. The noun nubigena,-ae,-um means bearing clouds, which is nonsense. It can be checked in any good dictionary.

Names in the first declension ending -fuga are derived from the verb fugere. Adjectives ending -fugus,-a,-um are derived from the verb fugare. The noun calcifuga,-ae means limestone-fleeing, the adjective calcifugus,-a,-um means limestone-chasing, which is nonsense. Indeed, there existed the noun aquifuga, but not the adjective aquifugus in the meaning water-fleeing. In contrast, the adjective nubifugus means cloud-chasing and not cloud-fleeing or cloud-shunning. There existed the noun lucifuga meaning light-shunning. The preceding can be checked in any good dictionary.

There also existed the adjective lucifugus the meaning of which is confused in dictionaries. In my opinion, its meaning is light-chasing, i.e., it denotes a person which using lies and by slyness makes things obscure, metaphorically chases light. My reasoning can be found at https://www.researchgate.net/publication/284719621_On_the_meaning_of_the_adjective_lucifugus-a-um.

All three types of adjectives ending -colus, -genus, -fugus were often used incorrectly in botanical literature, which is not a reason for doing it further.

(214) Change Art. 23.5 by inserting the word demonstrably and removing the last sentence as follows (new text in bold, deleted text in strikethrough):

“23.5. The specific epithet, when adjectival in form and not demonstrably used as a noun, agrees grammatically with the generic name; when it is a noun in apposition or a genitive noun, it retains its own gender and termination irrespective of the gender of the generic name. Epithets not conforming to this rule are to be corrected (see Art. 32.2). In particular, the usage of the word element -cola as an adjective is a correctable error.”

(215) Add the following Note after Art. 23.5:

“Note n. In particular, the usage of the word elements -cola, -gena in the meaning born in, -fuga in the meaning fleeing as an adjective is a correctable error, and the word elements -fer, -fera, -ferum, -ger, -gera, -gerum are adjectival.”

(216) Extend Ex. 5, 6 and 8 after Art. 23.5 as follows (new text in bold, deleted text in strikethrough):


“Ex. 8. Townsendia “florifer” is a correctable error for Townsendia florifera (Hook.) A. Gray because “florifer” was not demonstrably used as a noun in its basionym Erigeron florifer Hook.; When Blanchard proposed Rubus “anniculius”, it was is a correctable error for R. anniculius Blanch. (1906); Mesembryanthemum “nubigenum” is a correctable error for Mesembryanthemum nubigenum Schlr.”