(11) Proposal to Amend Recommendation 46C.2 by Adding, at the End of the Current Text, ", Except in the Original Publication"

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"Any change or reform you make is going to have consequences you don't like."—Representative Morris Udall in the U.S. Congressional Record of 31 October 1985 [excerpt from Paul Dickson's The New Official Rules. 1989, quoted in the Washingtonian 25(2): 134. November 1989].

**TWO PROPOSALS TO AMEND THE CODE**

There are problems with author's names and abbreviations that can be solved by the following proposals:

(9) **Proposal to add a new paragraph at the end of Recommendation 46A:** "46A.6 The abbreviation adopted by the author for his personal name should be accepted, if it has priority of use on homonymic abbreviations of other author names."

Suggested examples: Pereira Coutinho, Antonio Xavier (1851–1939) always used the abbreviation "P. Cout." which should not be changed to "Cout." or "Coutinho". Sampaio, Gonçalo Antonio da Silva Ferreira (1865–1937) always used the abbreviation "Samp.". Henriques, Julio Augusto (1838–1928) always used "Henr." which should not be replaced by "Henriq." or "J. Henr.", as the abbreviation of Henriques, and should prevail over "Henr." for Henrard, J. T.

(10) **Proposal to add a new Recommendation 46E:** "46.E.1. If an author adopted a pseudonym instead of his personal name, it or its abbreviation should be accepted for those names and combinations published under it and should not be replaced by his personal name or its abbreviation."

Suggested example: Nathalie Desiatova-Shostenko (1889–1968), when living in France after World War II, published names under the authorship of "Roussine", the pseudonym that she adopted ("Nathalie Roussine").


(11) **Proposal to amend Recommendation 46C.2 by adding, at the end of the current text, “, except in the original publication.”**


On the strength of the current Rec. 46C.2 the taxonomic advisors to the Scientific Editor of the South African Journal of Botany requested that when new names or combinations are published jointly by more than two authors, only the first author should be cited, followed by 'et al.' Examples of the implementation of this requirement are:


The first author of this note was therefore surprised on being informed by the second author (after consultation with other botanists) that the author citations for *Encephalartos* were contrary to Rec. 46C.2. The crucial words in this recommendation are said to be "has been", meaning that the name of a taxon when first published must be accompanied by the names of all the authors involved with its instatement, and only on subsequent occasions may the author citation be reduced as per the current Rec. 46C.2.

We submit that Rec. 46C.2 in its present form is not explicit enough to avoid misinterpretation. We therefore make this proposal.
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PROPOSAL TO SIMPLIFY ARTICLE 48

Article 48 includes something that makes its application liable to different interpretations and weakens the Rule considerably. It is the word "explicitly", mentioned twice.

The word here means that we have to interpret the way of thinking of a usually long-deceased author. Such an interpretation can never be done with certainty, not only because we do not know the mode of thinking, but times have changed and with this, the way how people expressed themselves. Rarely, as in the current Ex. 2 (*Amorphophallus campanulatus* Decaisne), can we be certain that the author excluded the type.

To make the Rule more simple (an important goal in setting up Rules) and make speculations and different interpretations impossible, I make the following:

(12) Proposal to amend Art. 48 by deleting the word "explicitly" wherever it occurs (twice).

If the original type is excluded, it is considered that a later homonym has been created, ascribed solely to the author. No long considerations are necessary.