

# ZOOLOGISCHE MEDEDELINGEN

UITGEGEVEN DOOR HET

RIJKSMUSEUM VAN NATUURLIJKE HISTORIE TE LEIDEN  
(MINISTERIE VAN WELZIJN, VOLKSGEZONDHEID EN CULTUUR)  
Deel 61 no. 37                      29 december 1987                      ISSN 0024-0672

---

**MACROBRACHIUM AHKOWI NOM. NOV., A REPLACEMENT NAME  
FOR MACROBRACHIUM JOHNSONI CHONG & KHOO, 1987,  
PREOCCUPIED BY MACROBRACHIUM JOHNSONI RAVINDRANATH,  
1979 (DECAPODA: CARIDEA: PALAEMONIDAE)**

by

**S. S. C. CHONG**

and

**H. W. KHOO**

Chong, S. S. C. & H. W. Khoo: *Macrobrachium ahkowi* **nom. nov.**, a replacement name for *Macrobrachium johnsoni* Chong & Khoo, 1987, preoccupied by *Macrobrachium johnsoni* Ravindranath, 1979 (Decapoda: Caridea: Palaemonidae).

Zool. Med. Leiden 61 (37), 29-xii-1987: 561-562. — ISSN 0024-0672.

Key words: replacement name; *Macrobrachium ahkowi*; *Macrobrachium johnsoni* Chong & Khoo; *Macrobrachium johnsoni* Ravindranath.

The recently described *Macrobrachium johnsoni* Chong & Khoo, turns out to be a junior primary homonym of *M. johnsoni* Ravindranath. The replacement name *M. ahkowi* is proposed.

S. S. C. Chong & H. W. Khoo, Department of Zoology, National University of Singapore, Kent Ridge Campus, Singapore 0511, Republic of Singapore.

Chong & Khoo (1987) recently described a new species of freshwater palaemonid prawn, *Macrobrachium johnsoni*, from Gunong Pulai in southern Peninsular Malaysia. They were however, unaware that the name had already been used for an Indian species, *Macrobrachium johnsoni* Ravindranath, 1979. Under Article 57 of the International Code of Zoological Nomenclature (1985), *Macrobrachium johnsoni* Chong & Khoo, 1987, thus becomes a junior primary homonym of *Macrobrachium johnsoni* Ravindranath, 1979, and hence an invalid name.

Ravindranath's species was described from a single male, probably collected from Guntur in Andhra Pradesh State, and is clearly different from that described by Chong & Khoo. Whilst *Macrobrachium johnsoni* Ravindranath

is affiliated to *M. horstii* (De Man, 1892), *M. placidulum* (De Man, 1892), *M. lepidactyloides* (De Man, 1892), and *M. manipurensis* (Tiwari, 1952), Chong & Khoo's species belongs to the *M. pilimanus* (De Man, 1879) group of species which have completely abbreviated larval development. Since both species are clearly distinct, Chong & Khoo's name has to be changed. The new name, *Macrobrachium ahkowi* is hereby proposed as a replacement for *Macrobrachium johnsoni* Chong & Khoo, 1987. The new species is named in memory of the recently deceased professor Tham Ah Kow, former head (1961 to 1975) of the Fisheries Biology Unit, National University of Singapore.

The types of both *M. johnsoni* Ravindranath, 1979, and *M. ahkowi* **nom. nov.**, are deposited in the Rijksmuseum van Natuurlijke Historie, Leiden, The Netherlands.

The authors would like to thank Professor Dr. L. B. Holthuis for pointing out the homonymy, and to Mr. Peter K. L. Ng for his kind help in resolving the matter.

#### REFERENCES

- Chong S. S. C. & H. W. Khoo, 1987. A new species of freshwater prawn, *Macrobrachium johnsoni* spec. nov. (Decapoda: Caridea: Palaemonidae) from Peninsular Malaysia, and a description of its first zoea. — Zool. Med. Leiden 61(25): 359-370.
- Ravindranath, K., 1979. A new species of *Macrobrachium* (Decapoda, Caridea, Palaemonidae) from India. — Crustaceana 37(2): 184-190.