Case 3833 – *Hyla prasina* Burmeister, 1856 (currently *Boana prasina*; Amphibia, Anura, Hylidae): proposed precedence over *Hyla quoyi* Bory de Saint-Vincent, 1828

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Abstract. The purpose of this application, under Article 23.9.3 of the International Code of Zoological Nomenclature, is to conserve the usage of the species-group name *Hyla prasina* Burmeister, 1856 by reversal of precedence over its senior subjective synonym *Hyla quoyi* Bory de Saint-Vincent, 1828. The junior synonym has been consistently in use for more than 50 years (cited by more than 90 published works), while the senior synonym remained forgotten until 2017, having been cited as valid only two times since then.

Keywords. Nomenclature; taxonomy; Amphibia; Anura; HYLIDAE; *Boana*; *prasina*; *quoyi*; Burmeister's treefrog; South America.

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1. The name *Hyla quoyi* was originally established for a treefrog species inhabiting the vicinity of Rio de Janeiro, in the Atlantic Forest region of southeastern Brazil (Bory de Saint-Vincent, 1828a)—see Ohler & Dubois (2018) for the earlier publication date of Bory de Saint-Vincent (1828a) over Bory de Saint-Vincent (1828b). The holotype of *H. quoyi* is considered to be the specimen illustrated in plate 4 of Bory de Saint-Vincent 1828a (Ohler & Dubois, 2018). After its description, this name remained forgotten for almost 200 years (Caramaschi & Niemeyer, 2010; Dubois & Ohler, 2018).

2. *Hyla prasina* was described from Nova Friburgo, Rio de Janeiro (Burmeister, 1856), the same area as *H. quoyi*. Its holotype is the treefrog illustrated in plate 31, figure 2 of Burmeister (1856) (Caramaschi & Niemeyer, 2010), considered to be ZMB 4675 (in Museum für Naturkunde, Berlin, Germany) by Duellman (1977). This name is widely used, most recently in the combinations *Hypsiboas prasinus* and *Boana prasina* (Costa & Santana, 2018; Kolenc & Baldo, 2018).

3. Caramaschi & Niemeyer (2010) stated that *Hyla quoyi* and *H. prasina* are subjective synonyms and recommended a reversal of precedence based on Article 23.9 of the International Code of Zoological Nomenclature (ICZN, 1999), to keep *H. prasina* valid instead of its long forgotten senior synonym. However, they failed to meet all the requirements of Art. 23.9 by not citing 25 works published by at least 10 authors in the last 50 years and within a span of not less than 10 years (Art. 23.9.1.2), making their

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statement void (Ohler & Dubois, 2018).

4. Dubois (2017) considered *H. quoyi* as valid (as *Boana quoyi*), following arguments later presented in Ohler & Dubois (2018), at that time a submitted manuscript, where it was argued that *Hyla prasina* has not been used enough to become a protected name over *H. quoyi*. However, *Hyla prasina* is indeed a widely used name, cited as valid by more than 90 published works in the last 50 years, mainly under the combination *Hypsiboas prasinus* and, more recently, *Boana prasina* (Costa & Santana, 2018; Kolenc & Baldo, 2018). However, since *Hyla quoyi* was recently considered valid (Dubois, 2017; Ohler & Dubois, 2018), Art. 23.9.1.1 ("the senior synonym or homonym has not been used as a valid name after 1899") can no longer be invoked to invalidate this name in favor of its junior synonym *H. prasina* (Costa & Santana, 2018; Dubois & Ohler, 2018), which leads to the necessity of a ruling by the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature (see Art. 23.9.3). Considering that resurrection of the long-forgotten name *quoyi* would promote unnecessary nomenclatural instability due to the wide use of its subjective junior synonym *prasina* in the last decades (Costa & Santana, 2018; Dubois & Ohler, 2018; Kolenc & Baldo, 2018), this case is here submitted to the Commission following Art. 23.9.3 for a reversal of precedence of *Hyla prasina* over its senior subjective synonym *Hyla quoyi*, allowing the former name to be used as valid in the future whenever *quoyi* and *prasina* are considered to represent the same species-group taxon.

5. The International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature is accordingly asked:
   (1) to use its plenary power to give the specific name *prasina* Burmeister, 1856, as published in the binomen *Hyla prasina*, precedence over the specific name *quoyi* Bory de Saint-Vincent, 1828, as published in the binomen *Hyla quoyi*, whenever the two are considered to be synonyms;
   (2) to place on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology the following names:
      (a) *prasina* Burmeister, 1856, as published in the binomen *Hyla prasina*, with the endorsement that it is to be given precedence over the name *quoyi* Bory de Saint-Vincent, 1828, as published in the binomen *Hyla quoyi*, whenever the two are considered to be synonyms; and,
      (b) *quoyi* Bory de Saint-Vincent, 1828, as published in the binomen *Hyla quoyi*, with the endorsement that it is not to be given precedence over the name *prasina* Burmeister, 1856, as published in the binomen *Hyla prasina*, whenever the two are considered to be synonyms.

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