

## Taxonomic notes on some Late Cenozoic and Recent lagomorphs (Mammalia)

A.O. Averianov

Averianov, A.O. 1998. Taxonomic notes on some Late Cenozoic and Recent lagomorphs (Mammalia). *Zoosystematica Rossica*, 7(2): 323-325.

*Ochotona dauurica* (Pallas, 1776) is the correct spelling instead of the commonly used "daurica". *Hypolagus schreuderae* Teilhard de Chardin, 1940 = "*Lepus*" *youngi* Bohlin, 1942, **syn. n.** *Ochotona birgerbohlini* **nom. n.** is proposed for *O. lagreli minor* Bohlin, 1942, a junior homonym of *O. minor* Link, 1795 [= *O. dauurica* (Pallas, 1776)]. The spellings of *Hypolagus schreuderi* Teilhard de Chardin, 1940, *Megalagus dawsoni* Black, 1961, *Cuyamalagus dawsoni* Hutchison in Hutchison & Lindsay, 1974, and *Ochotona gromovi* Erbajeva in Basarov et al., 1976 are corrected into *H. schreuderae*, *M. dawsonae*, *C. dawsonae*, and *O. gromovororum* respectively. *Megalagus primitivus* (Schlaikjer, 1935) = *M. dawsonae* Black, 1961, **syn. n.** *Gripholagomys* Green, 1972 = *Cuyamalagus* Hutchison in Hutchison & Lindsay, 1974, **syn. n.**, resulting in *Gripholagomys dawsonae* (Hutchison, 1974), **comb. n.** *Prolagomys sibiricus* Erbajeva, 1975 is not a *nomen nudum* and available as *P. sibiricus* Erbajeva in Basarov et al., 1976, but both the generic and specific names are junior synonyms of *Ochotonoides* Teilhard de Chardin & Young, 1931 and *O. complicidens* (Boule & Teilhard de Chardin, 1928) respectively. The name *Microlagomys aktogaiensis* Savinov in Kozhamkulova, Savinov & Suslov, 1981 [= *Pseudoochotona prima* Kozhamkulova & Orlovskaya, 1971, *nomen nudum*] is unavailable; the correct name of this taxon is *Ochotona pusilla aktogaiensis* (Kozhamkulova & Savinov, 1984). *Pseudobellatona* V. Topachevskii, Nesin & I. Topachevskii, 1993 and *P. relicta* V. Topachevskii, Nesin & I. Topachevskii, 1993 are *nomen dubia*; the nominal taxon is referred to *Lagomorpha incertae sedis*.

A.O. Averianov, Zoological Institute, Russian Academy of Sciences, Universitetskaya nab. 1, St.Petersburg 199034, Russia. e-mail: sasha@AA1923.spb.edu

The paper discusses synonymy and nomenclature of some species. The names are given in chronological order.

***Ochotona dauurica*** (Pallas, 1776) (Ochotonidae), Recent, Asia. The correct spelling of the species name is "dauurica" as derived from *Lepus dauuricus* Pallas, 1776 (Pallas, 1776: 692; Argirovulo, 1948: 127; Hoffmann, 1992: 808; Pavlinov et al., 1995: 123), not the commonly used "daurica".

"***Lepus*" youngi** Bohlin, 1942 (Leporidae), early Pleistocene, China. This name is a junior subjective synonym of *Hypolagus schreuderae* Teilhard de Chardin, 1940, early Pleistocene, China (**new synonymy**). The types of both species most probably come from the same locality (Bohlin, 1942: 152) and are nearly identical in size and morphology. Bohlin (1942: 152) expressed "a strong feeling that "*Lepus*" *youngi* ... might be referable to *H. schreuderi*" [about the spelling of this

name see below], but for unknown reason did not establish the synonymy formally.

***Ochotona lagreli minor*** Bohlin, 1942 (Ochotonidae), late Miocene – early Pliocene, China. This name is a junior homonym (ICZN, Art. 53c) of *Ochotona minor* Link, 1795 [= *Ochotona dauurica* (Pallas, 1776)], Recent, Asia. This taxon is currently considered as a separate species (Qiu, 1987: 391; Cai, 1989: 175): *Ochotona minor* Bohlin, 1942. For this species a new name is proposed here (after Birger Bohlin): *Ochotona birgerbohlini* **nom. n.** Another junior homonym, *Ochotona minor* Erbajeva, 1976 (in Basarov et al., 1976: 67), late Pliocene, Transbaikalia, was replaced by *Ochotona sibirica* Erbajeva, 1988 (Erbaeva, 1988: 88).

***Hypolagus schreuderi*** Teilhard de Chardin, 1940 (Leporidae), late Pliocene, China. The species was named after a woman, "Dr. A. [Antje] Schreuder" (Teilhard de Chardin,

1940: 37) and therefore the spelling of the species name must be changed into “*schreuderae*” (ICZN, Art. 31a (ii)). The species name was misspelled by Gureev (1964: 121) as “*schreideri*” and subsequently this incorrect spelling was used in some Soviet publications (e.g. Topachevskii, 1987: 51).

***Megalagus dawsoni*** Black, 1961 (Palaeolagidae), early Miocene (Arikareean), North America. The species was named after a woman, “Dr. Mary Dawson” (Black, 1961: 17) and therefore the spelling of the species name must be changed into “*dawsonae*” (ICZN, Art. 31a (ii)). *M. dawsonae* Black, 1961 is a junior subjective synonym of *M. primitivus* (Schlaikjer, 1935), late Oligocene – early Miocene (Arikareean), North America (**new synonymy**).

***Cuyamalagus dawsoni*** Hutchison in Hutchison & Lindsay, 1974 (Ochotonidae), early Miocene (Hemingfordian), North America. The species was named after a woman, “Mary A. Dawson” (Hutchison & Lindsay, 1974: 10) and therefore the spelling of the species name must be changed into “*dawsonae*” (ICZN, Art. 31a (ii)). The generic name *Cuyamalagus* Hutchison in Hutchison & Lindsay, 1974 is a junior subjective synonym of *Gripholagomys* Green, 1972, early Miocene (Hemingfordian), North America (**new synonymy**). The species name should be referred as *Gripholagomys dawsonae* (Hutchison, 1974), **comb. n.**

***Prolagomys sibiricus*** Erbajeva, 1976 (Ochotonidae), late Pliocene, Transbaikalia. The consideration of these names as *nomina nuda* by Agadjanian & Erbaeva (1983: 63) is a mistake. The genus and species were established by Erbajeva in Basarov et al. (1976: 63). *Prolagomys* Erbajeva, 1976 is a junior subjective synonym of *Ochotonoides* Teilhard de Chardin & Young, 1931 and *Prolagomys sibiricus* Erbajeva, 1976 is a junior subjective synonym of *Ochotonoides complicidens* (Boule & Teilhard de Chardin, 1928), late Pliocene – Pleistocene, Asia.

***Ochotona gromovi*** Erbajeva in Basarov et al., 1976 (Ochotonidae), late Pliocene, Transbaikalia. This species was named in honour of “paleontologists V.I. Gromov and I.M. Gromov” (Basarov et al., 1976: 65). The spelling “*gromovi*” must be changed into “*gromovororum*” (ICZN, Art. 31a (ii)): *Ochotona gromovororum* Erbajeva in Basarov et al., 1976.

***Microlagomys aktogaiensis*** Savinov in Kozhamkulova, Savinov & Suslov, 1981 (= *Pseudochotona prima* Kozhamkulova & Or-

lovskaya, 1971, *nomen nudum* [Kozhamkulova & Orlovskaya, 1971: 28]), late Pliocene, Kazakhstan. This name is unavailable according to ICZN Art. 11a, because the work does not fit the criteria of the publication (ICZN, Art. 8): the name was applied in the unpublished typescript deposited in the VINITI (“Vsesoyuznyi Institut nauchnoi i technicheskoi informatsii”). The authors of the name are Kozhamkulova & Savinov (1984: 176), who published a diagnosis of the taxon, the available name for which is *Ochotona pusilla aktogaiensis* (Kozhamkulova & Savinov, 1984).

***Pseudobellatona relictata*** V. Topachevskii, Nesin & I. Topachevskii, 1993 (Ochotonidae), early Pliocene, Europe. This genus and species was based upon one isolated tooth (p3) only (Topachevskii et al., 1993: fig. 6). The tooth is somewhat similar with p3 of *Bellatona forsythmajori* Dawson, 1961 from the middle Miocene of China and Mongolia (Dawson, 1961; Erbaeva, 1981), but sharply differs in the much deeper antero-external fold filled by cement. By the latter feature and by the general appearance, it looks like p3 of the species of the leporid genus *Hypolagus* Dice, 1917, but differs from most species in the somewhat smaller size. The tooth may belong to a juvenile individual of *Hypolagus* or to an aberrant ochotonid. As it could not be properly diagnosed and attributed either to Leporidae or Ochotonidae, the names *Pseudobellatona* V. Topachevskii, Nesin & I. Topachevskii, 1993 and *P. relictata* V. Topachevskii, Nesin & I. Topachevskii, 1993 are considered here as *nomina dubia* and the nominal taxon is referred to Lagomorpha incertae sedis. The idea about survival of Sino-lagomyinae by the early Pliocene on Mediterranean islands or in Africa and their migration during this time into the territory of Ukraine (Topachevskii et al., 1993: 164), as well as any other speculations, could not be established upon such a poor material.

## References

- Agadjanian, A.K. & Erbaeva, M.A. 1983. *Pozdnekainozoiskie gryzuny i zaitseobraznye territorii SSSR* [Late Cenozoic rodents and lagomorphs of the territory of the USSR]. 186 p. Moscow. (In Russian).
- Argiropulo, A.I. 1948. Review of the recent species of the family Lagomyidae Lilljeb., 1886 (Lagomorpha, Mammalia). *Trudy zool. Inst. Akad. Nauk SSSR*, 7: 124-128. (In Russian).
- Basarov, D.B., Erbaeva, M.A. & Resanov, I.N. 1976. *Geologiya i fauna opornykh razrezov antropogena*

- zapadnogo Zabaikal'ya* [Geology and fauna of the reperf Anthropogene sections of western Transbaikalia]. 148 p. Moscow. (In Russian)
- Black, C.C.** 1961. Rodents and lagomorphs from the Miocene Fort Logan and Deep River formations of Montana. *Postilla*, **48**: 1-20.
- Bohlin, B.** 1942. A revision of the fossil Lagomorpha in the Paleontological Museum, Uppsala. *Bull. geol. Inst. Uppsala*, **30**: 117-154.
- Cai Baoquan.** 1989. Fossil lagomorphs from the late Pliocene of Yangyuan and Yuxian, Hebei. *Vert. Palasiat.*, **27**: 170-181.
- Dawson, M.R.** 1961. On two ochotonids (Mammalia, Lagomorpha) from the Later Tertiary of Inner Mongolia. *Amer. Mus. Novitates*, **2061**: 1-15.
- Erbaeva, M.A.** 1981. Miocene pikas of Mongolia. *Trudy sov. mongol. paleontol. Eksped.*, **15**: 86-95. (In Russian).
- Erbaeva, M.A.** 1988. *Pishchukhi kainozoya (taksonomiya, sistematika, filogeniya)* [Pikas of the Cenozoic (taxonomy, systematics, phylogeny)]. 222 p. Moscow. (In Russian).
- Gureev, A.A.** 1964. *Fauna SSSR. Mlekopitayushchie. T.3, Vyp.10. Zaitseobraznye (Lagomorpha)*. [Fauna of the USSR. Mammals. Vol.3, N 10. Lagomorphs (Lagomorpha)]. 276 p. Moscow & Leningrad. (In Russian).
- Hoffmann, R.S.** 1992. Order Lagomorpha. In: D.E. Wilson, D.A.W. Reeder (eds.). *Mammalian species of the World. A taxonomic and geographic reference*: 807-827. 2nd ed., Washington & London.
- Hutchison, J.H. & Lindsay, E.H.** 1974. The Hemingfordian mammal fauna of the Vedder locality, Branch Canyon Formation, Santa Barbara County, California. Part 1: Insectivora, Chiroptera, Lagomorpha, and Rodentia (Sciuridae). *PaleoBios*, **15**: 1-19.
- Kozhamkulova, B.S. & Orlovskaya, E.R.** 1971. Fauna of vertebrates and flora of the southern part of Kazakhstan in Mesozoic and Cenozoic. *Vestnik Akad. Nauk Kazakh. SSR*, **5**(313): 25-29. (In Russian).
- Kozhamkulova, B.S. & Savinov, P.F.** 1984. New elements of Ili fauna of Kazakhstan. In: M.A. Kamaletdinov & V.L. Yakhimovich (eds.). *Antropogen Evrazii*: 176-180. [Anthropogene of Eurasia]. Moscow. (In Russian).
- Pallas, P.S.** 1776. *Reise durch verschiedene Provinzen des Russischen Reichs*. Theil 3. 760p. St. Petersburg.
- Pavlinov, I.Ya., Borisenko, A.V., Kruskop, S.V. & Yakhontov, E.L.** 1995. *Mlekopitayushchie Evrazii. II. Non-Rodentia: sistematiko-geograficheskii spravochnik*. [Mammals of Eurasia. II. Non-Rodentia: systematic and geographic reference book]. 336p. Moscow. (In Russian).
- Qiu Zhuding.** 1987. The Neogene mammalian faunas of Ertemte and Harr Obo in Inner Mongolia (Nei Mongol), China. 6. Hares and pikas – Lagomorpha: Leporidae and Ochotonidae. *Senckenberg. Lethaea*, **67**: 375-399.
- Teilhard de Chardin, P.** 1940. The fossils from Locality 18 near Peking. *Paleontol. Sinica, new ser. (C)*, **9** (124): 1-94.
- Topachevskii, I.V.** 1987. First record of the representative of *Serengetilagus* (Lagomorpha, Leporidae) from the Pliocene deposits of Eastern Europe. *Vestnik Zool.*, **6**: 48-51. (In Russian).
- Topachevskii, V.A., Nesin, V.A. & Topachevskii, I.V.** 1993. First records of gerbils (Rodentia, Gerbillidae) and problematic pikas – sinolagomyines (Lagomorpha, Ochotonidae) in the upper Meothis and Pontian of the northern part of Eastern Paratethyda. *Dokl. Akad. Nauk Ukrainy, Ser. Mat., Estesvozn., tekhn. Nauki*, **4**: 161-164. (In Russian).

Received 25 March 1998