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**Validation of the names *Antithamnion subcorticatum* Itono and *Balliella subcorticata* (Itono) Itono & Tak.Tanaka (Ceramiales, Rhodophyta).**

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The name “*Antithamnion subcorticatum* Itono” (Itono 1969: 40) is invalid as it lacks a Latin diagnosis or description (ICN Art. 44.1, Melbourne Code; McNeill *et al.* 2012), which consequently rendered the later combination based on this name, “*Balliella subcorticata* (Itono) Itono & Tak.Tanaka” (Itono & Tanaka, 1973: 250), also invalid. Neither name has been subsequently validated, despite appearing in numerous publications (e.g., Huisman & Kraft 1984, Skelton & South 2007).

Following the Melbourne ICN (McNeill *et al.*, 2012), a Latin diagnosis or description is no longer a requirement for the valid publication of names published on or after 1 January 2012 (ICN Art. 39.1, Melbourne Code; McNeill *et al.* 2012), but this is not applied retrospectively. However, since valid publication after that date can be achieved by “reference to a previously and effectively published Latin or English description or diagnosis” (ICN Art. 39.2, Melbourne Code; McNeill *et al.* 2011), *Antithamnion subcorticatum* can therefore be validated by direct reference to Itono’s original English description. As Itono’s description is being used here formally to validate the name, *Antithamnion subcorticatum* is here ascribed to him, following Ex. 6 of ICN Art. 46.2 (Melbourne Code; McNeill *et al.* 2011). The combination *Balliella subcorticata* is also proposed below and is ascribed to Itono & Tak.Tanaka, the original proponents.

***Antithamnion subcorticatum* Itono, *sp. nov.***

Validating description: *Memoirs of the Faculty of Fisheries, Kagoshima University* 18: 40-41, 1969.

Type locality: “lagoon of north end of Yoron Island at the depth of about 10 m” [Yoronjima, Okinawa-gunto, Ruykyu-retto, Japan].

Holotype: Herbarium of Faculty of Fisheries, Kagoshima University (HI 196913) *vide* Itono & Tanaka (1973).

***Balliella subcorticata* (Itono) Itono & Tak.Tanaka, *comb. nov.***

Basionym: *Antithamnion subcorticatum* Itono in Huisman & Guiry, *Notulae Algarum* No. 33, 2017: 1.

Athanasiadis (1996) tentatively proposed the synonymy of *B. subcorticata* and *B. repens* Huisman & Kraft (1984). However, the latter typically has a more extensive prostrate system and more than one tetrasporangium can occur per bearing cell, whereas tetrasporangia in *B. subcorticata* are generally borne singly. Skelton & South (2007: 127) accepted both species.

Athanasiadis, A. (1996). Morphology and classification of the Ceramioideae (Rhodophyta) based on phylogenetic principles. *Opera Botanica* 127: 1-221.

McNeill, J., Barrie, F.R., Buck, W.R., Demoulin, V., Greuter, W., Hawksworth, D.L., Herendeen, P.S., Knapp, S., Prado, J., Prud'homme van Reine, W.F., Smith, G.F., Wiersema, J.H. & Turland, N.J. (2012). *International Code of Nomenclature for algae, fungi and plants (Melbourne Code)* adopted by the Eighteenth International Botanical Congress Melbourne, Australia, July 2011. *Regnum Vegetabile*, Vol. 154. pp. [i]-xxx, 1-208. Königstein: Koeltz Scientific Books.

- Huisman, J.M. & Kraft, G.T. (1984). The genus *Balliella* Itono & Tanaka (Rhodophyta: Ceramiaceae) from eastern Australia. *Journal of Phycology* 20: 73-82.
- Itono, H. (1969). The genus *Antithamnion* (Ceramiaceae) in southern Japan and adjacent waters-I. *Memoirs of the Faculty of Fisheries, Kagoshima University* 18: 29-45.
- Itono, H. & Tanaka, T. (1973). *Balliella*, a new genus of Ceramiaceae (Rhodophyta). *Botanical Magazine, Tokyo* 86: 241-252.
- McNeill, J., Barrie, F.R., Buck, W.R., Demoulin, V., Greuter, W., Hawksworth, D.L., Herendeen, P.S., Knapp, S., Prado, J., Prud'homme van Reine, W.F., Smith, G.F., Wiersema, J.H. & Turland, N.J. (2012). *International Code of Nomenclature for algae, fungi and plants (Melbourne Code)* adopted by the Eighteenth International Botanical Congress Melbourne, Australia, July 2011 *Regnum Vegetabile*, Vol. 154. pp. [i]-xxx, 1-208. Königstein: Koeltz Scientific Books.
- Skelton, P.A. & South, G.R. (2007). The benthic marine algae of the Samoan Archipelago, South Pacific, with emphasis on the Apia District. *Nova Hedwigia Beihefte* 132: 1-350.