

The reinstatement of *Herpoceras* C.E.Cramer, 1863 to replace *Reinboldiella* De Toni, 1895 (*Ceramaceae*, *Florideophyceae*)

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Reinboldiella schmitziana (Reinbold) De Toni is the generitype of *Reinboldiella* De Toni (1895: 35). With the recent publication by Barros-Barreto & al. (2023), the genus at present contains seven accepted species names (Guiry & Guiry 2026). One of the species recently transferred to *Reinboldiella* was *R. filicula* (Womersley) Barros-Barreto & Maggs in Barros-Barreto & al. (2023). This name is based on *Ceramium filicula** Womersley (1978: 238, figs. 4 E, F, 15 A–E, as ‘*filiculum*’), a new species based in part on *Ceramium miniatum sensu* Harvey (1855: 557). Womersley proposed this new name even though he included *Herpoceras australe* C.E.Cramer in synonymy as *Ceramium australe* Sonder (1845) had nomenclatural priority within *Ceramium*. The type of *Herpoceras* C.E.Cramer (1863: 76, 103) is *Herpoceras australe* C.E.Cramer and is thus a valid and legitimate generic name with priority over *Reinboldiella* De Toni (1895: 35) and *Herpoceras australe* C.E.Cramer also has priority.

Considering the above, it is thus necessary to reinstate *Herpoceras* C.E.Cramer, 1863, a genus with priority over *Reinboldiella* De Toni, 1895, and to transfer the currently accepted species of *Reinboldiella* to *Herpoceras*. The latter was earlier treated by Kylin (1956) and by Schneider & Wynne (2007) as congeneric with *Ceramium*, while *Reinboldiella* was regarded as generically distinct by Kylin (1956) and Schneider & Wynne (2007). Recent gene-sequence evidence by Suzuki & Lin (2017) and Barros-Barreto & al. (2023) supported the recognition of *Reinboldiella* as distinct from *Ceramium*.

Herpoceras C.E.Cramer, 1863

Type: *Herpoceras australe* C.E.Cramer, 1863, = *Ceramium filicula* Womersley, 1978, = *Reinboldiella filicula* (Womersley) Barros-Barreto & Maggs, 2023.

Etymology: *Herpo-* (ἑρπω), to crawl or creep and *-ceras* (κέρας), a horn.

The following nomenclatural changes are proposed:

Herpoceras filamentosum (Itono) M.J.Wynne & C.W.Schneider, *comb. nov.*

Basionym: *Reinboldiella filamentosa* Itono 25, 192, 255, figs 9 B–G, 38 I–J, 56 D, E, 1977.

Registration of name: <http://phycobank.org/107505>

Herpoceras orientale (S.-M.Lin & Mas.Suzuki) M.J.Wynne & C.W.Schneider, *comb. nov.*

Basionym: *Reinboldiella orientalis* S.-M.Lin & Mas.Suzuki, *European Journal of Phycology* 52: 294, figs 2–27, 2017.

Registration of name: <http://phycobank.org/107506>

Herpoceras robustum (Itono) M.J.Wynne & C.W.Schneider, *comb. nov.*

Basionym: *Reinboldiella robusta* Itono, *Bibliotheca Phycologia* 35: 26, figs 9 H–Q, 36 A–C, 50 A–B, 56 A–B, 57 A–B, 1977.

*Latin noun, meaning a small fern, and is not declinable.

Registration of name: <http://phycobank.org/107507>

Herpoceras schmitzianum (Reinbold) M.J.Wynne & C.W.Schneider, *comb. nov.*

Basionym: *Gloiothamnion schmitzianum* Reinbold, *Hedwigia* 34: 205, pl. III [3], 1895.

Homotypic synonym: *Reinboldiella schmitziana* (Reinbold) De Toni, 1895: 35.

Registration of name: <http://phycobank.org/107508>

Herpoceras taiwanense (S.-M.Lin & Mas.Suzuki) M.J.Wynne & C.W.Schneider, *comb. nov.*

Basionym: *Reinboldiella taiwanensis* S.-M.Lin & Mas.Suzuki *European Journal of Phycology* 52: 296, figs 28–43, 2017.

Registration of name: <http://phycobank.org/107509>

Herpoceras warburgii (Heydrich) M.J.Wynne & C.W.Schneider, *comb. nov.*

Basionym: *Carpoblepharis warburgii* Heydrich *Hedwigia*, 297, pl. XV: fig. 15, 1894

Homotypic synonym: *Reinboldiella warburgii* (Heydrich) Yoshida & Mikami 1998: 934.

Registration of name: <http://phycobank.org/107510>

In summary, *Herpoceras* (including *Reinboldiella*) is distinguished from *Ceramium* Roth and *Carpoblepharis* Kützing by a suite of morphological features including a small, creeping habit; irregularly branched axes covered by cortical cells; a carposporophyte with an involucre; sporangia immersed in stichidia and tetrahedrally divided (Feldmann & Mazoyer 1937, Hommersand 1963, Barros-Barreto & al. 2023), as well as by phylogenetic evidence (Suzuki & Lin 2017, Barros-Barreto & al. 2023).

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