International Committee on Systematic Bacteriology

Subcommittee on the Taxonomy of the Lactobacilli and Related Organisms

Minutes of the Meetings, 10 and 12 August 1982, Boston, Massachusetts

Session 1. Open meeting

Minute 1. Call to order and record of attendance. The open meeting was called to order at 14:00 by the Chairperson, M. Rogosa. Present were K. W. Knox, J. London, E. Lauer, (alternate for O. Kandler), T. Mitsuoka, W. E. C. Moore, G. Reuter, and M. Rogosa. The guests present were A. Kagermeier, D. McCoy, and V. Scardovi.

Minute 2. Call for old business. Based on discussions at the meeting held in Munich, Federal Republic of Germany, M. Rogosa announced that the species Lactobacillus fermentum and Lactobacillus cellobiosus have high levels of deoxyribonucleic acid homology and will be combined into one species (L. fermentum has priority). Similarly, “Lactobacillus jugurti” and Lactobacillus helveticus will be merged into one species (L. helveticus). Lactobacillus buccalgaricus, Lactobacillus leichmanii, and Lactobacillus lactis are synonyms for a single species, which will be called Lactobacillus delbrueckii. In all instances, subspecies designations will be maintained to facilitate identification of all industrially important organisms.

Minute 3. Call for research reports. Research reports were presented by A. Kagermeier, K. W. Knox, E. Lauer, and G. Reuter. A discussion followed.

Minute 4. Acceptance of species. The following species were accepted as valid by the Subcommittee: Lactobacillus agilis Weiss et al., 1981 (13); Lactobacillus alimentarius Reuter, 1983 (12); Lactobacillus amylovorus Nakamura, 1981 (9); Lactobacillus amylyophilus Nakamura and Crowell, 1979 (10); Lactobacillus farcininis Reuter, 1983 (12); Lactobacillus gasseri Lauer and Kandler, 1980 (7); Lactobacillus malaromaticus Miller et al., 1974 (8); Lactobacillus murinus Hemme et al., 1980 (2); Lactobacillus pentosus Fred et al. (1), 1921; Lactobacillus reuteri Kandler et al., 1980 (4); Lactobacillus rogosae Holdeman and Moore, 1974 (3); Lactobacillus sake Katagiri et al., 1934 (5); Lactobacillus sanfrancisco Kline and Sugihara, 1971 (6); Lactobacillus sharpeae Weiss et al., 1981 (13); and Lactobacillus vaccinostercus Okada et al., 1979 (11).

The meeting was adjourned at 15:55 on 10 August.

Session 2. Closed meeting

Minute 5. Call to order and record of attendance. The closed meeting was called to order at 15:00 by the Chairperson, M. Rogosa. Present were K. W. Knox, E. Lauer, J. London, T. Mitsuoka, W. E. C. Moore, G. Reuter, M. Rogosa, V. Scardovi, and P. H. A. Sneath (ex officio).

Minute 6. Discussion of the open meeting. The closed meeting was convened after a short discussion of the reports presented at the previous open meeting.

Minute 7. Merger with Bifidobacterium Subcommittee. P. H. A. Sneath suggested that the Subcommittee should be reorganized and expanded in accordance with informal discussions of this action that were initiated by O. Kandler at the Munich meeting. M. Rogosa called for a vote on the merger of the Bifidobacterium Subcommittee with the Subcommittee on the Taxonomy of the Lactobacilli and Related Organisms. A poll of the members of the Subcommittee on the Taxonomy of the Lactobacilli and Related Organisms resulted in seven affirmative votes and two opposed. Members of the Bifidobacterium Subcommittee voted five affirmative and two opposed. K. W. Knox then moved that the two subcommittees be merged; the motion was seconded by W. E. C. Moore and carried by a vote of seven to two. A joint meeting ensued, and it was decided that the membership would decide on an appropriate name for the new subcommittee at a later date.

Minute 8. Scope of Subcommittee. P. H. A. Sneath suggested that the purview of the Subcommittee be enlarged to officially include other lactic acid bacteria, such as the genera Leuconostoc, Brochothrix, Aerococcus, and several others that are not now being considered by standing subcommittees. The Secretary was charged with contacting the appropriate International Committee on Systematic Bacteriology officers and subcommittee secretaries to facilitate the transfers.

Minute 9. Membership. Drs. Garvie and Stouthamer have conveyed their desire to retire from Subcommittee service. The membership wished to acknowledge the valuable contributions of these individuals and to thank them for their service in a formal letter. M. Rogosa and O. Kandler expressed their desire to relinquish the chairmanships of the Subcommittee on the Taxonomy of the Lactobacilli and Related Organisms and the Bifidobacterium Subcommittee, respectively. J. London nominated G. Reuter as Chairperson of the newly merged Subcommittee, and the nomination was seconded by W. E. C. Moore. G. Reuter declined the nomination, and M. Rogosa volunteered to remain Chairperson until Subcommittee members could vote for a new Chairperson by mail. J. London was asked to remain as Recording Secretary until 1986; he acceded to the request.

Minute 10. New members. Three microbiologists were invited to serve as members of the newly merged Subcommittee. Eckhard Lauer (Med-Praparate, Berlin, West Germany) was nominated by K. W. Knox and seconded by J. London. Norbert Weiss (Deutsche Sammlung für Mikroorganismen, Botanisches Institut der Universität, Munich, West Germany) was nominated by O. Kandler (by correspondence) and seconded by W. E. C. Moore. Angelika Kagermeier (National Institute of Dental Research, Bethesda, Md.) was nominated by M. Rogosa and seconded by K. W. Knox. The election of each nominee was unanimous.

Minute 11. New Business. G. Reuter submitted a formal request from O. Kandler that the Subcommittee undertake a comparative study of the following species and strains of Bifidobacterium to resolve discrepancies between results from several laboratories: Bifidobacterium asteroides ATCC 25910 and ATCC 25909, Bifidobacterium indicum ATCC 25912, Bifidobacterium coryneforme ATCC 25911, Bifidobacterium suis ATCC 27533, and Bifidobacterium longum ATCC 15707. T. Mitsuoka, V. Scardovi, W. E. C. Moore, and E. Lauer volunteered to pursue the project.

Minute 12. New species. The isolation and characterization of two newly described species of Bifidobacterium were announced. T. Mitsuoka informed the membership of his studies on a new species to be named Bifidobacterium
**LITERATURE CITED**


