A replacement name of the specific epithet _aurantiaca_ in _Micromonospora aurantiaca_ Sveshnikova _et al_. 1969 (Approved Lists 1980) and a proposal to treat the combination _Micromonospora aurantiaca_ Sveshnikova _et al_. 1969 as a rejected name. Request for an Opinion

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The names _Micromonospora aurantiaca_ (Sveshnikova _et al_., 1969) and _Micromonospora carbonacea_ subsp. _aurantiaca_ (Luedemann & Brodsky, 1964) were included in the Approved Lists of Bacterial Names (Skerman _et al_., 1980, 1989). According to Rule 12b of the Bacteriological Code (1990 Revision) (Lapage _et al_., 1992) no specific or subspecific epithets within the same genus may be the same if based on different types.


_M. aurantiaca_ Sveshnikova _et al_. 1969 (Approved Lists 1980) is illegitimate (Rule 12b) and consequently can not be correct (Principle 6). Rule 51a states that an illegitimate name may not be used and Principle 9 states that the name of a taxon should be changed if the name is contrary to the Rules of the Bacteriological Code (1990 Revision) (Lapage _et al_., 1992).

According to Rule 23a, the Judicial Commission may correct the Approved Lists and we request that the name _M. aurantiaca_ be changed.

The neo-Latin adjective _aurantiaca_ means orange-coloured. It seems useful to propose a specific epithet with the same meaning, so we suggest using the Greek adjective _sandarakinos_ -é- on, of orange colour. According to the rules of transliteration, the neo-Latin adjective should be _sandaracinus_ -a -um. However, Recommendation 6(7) (De Vos & Trüper, 2000) states that the Greek _κ_ should be maintained to avoid confusion. The genus _Micromonospora_ is in the feminine gender and we propose the name _Micromonospora sandarakina_ [san.da.ra’ki.na. N.L. fem. adj. sandarakina] (from Gr. fem. adj. sandarakíne) of orange colour.

If the Judicial Commission agrees with our proposal, the date of publication and the authorship will not be changed and _M. sandarakina_ should be cited as _M. sandarakina_ Sveshnikova _et al_. 1969 (Approved Lists 1980), type strain ATCC 27029T (= DSM 43813T = JCM 10878T = NBRC 16155T = NRRL B-16091T = VKM Ac-1936T).

According to Rule 51a, 'a name of a taxon which is illegitimate when the taxon is in one taxonomic position is not necessarily illegitimate when the taxon is in another taxonomic position', and according to Rule 41a the specific epithet must be retained when a species is transferred to another genus without any change of rank.

The name _M. aurantiaca_ should never have been created and, if an author proposes to transfer this taxon to another genus, the new epithet (for example, _sandarakina_ if the Judicial Commission agrees with our proposal) should be retained, even if the epithet _aurantiaca_ is not illegitimate in the new taxonomic position. However, to avoid problems we also request that the specific epithet _aurantiaca_ in the
name *M. aurantiaca* be rejected (i.e. be placed on the list of ‘Epitheta specifica et subspecifica rejicienda’) as a perplexing name [Rule 56a(4)].

References


