



Waynella nom. nov. (Siphonaptera: Ceratophyllidae), a new replacement name for *Rowleyella* Lewis, 1971, a junior homonym of *Rowleyella* Weller, 1911 (Brachiopoda: Meristidae)

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Abstract *Rowleyella* Lewis, 1971, established for a genus of fleas, was found to be a junior homonym of the brachiopod genus *Rowleyella* Weller, 1911 and is therefore replaced by *Waynella* **nom. nov.**, a substitute that preserves the meaning of the original name. The four previously included nominal species, viz., *Rowleyella arborea* Lewis, 1971 (type-species), *R. gongshanensis* Gong and Duan, 1989, *R. nujiangensis* Lin and Xie, 1990 and *R. fugongensis* Gong and Li, 2020, are accordingly now to be called *Waynella arborea* (Lewis, 1971) **n. comb.**, *W. gongshanensis* (Gong and Duan, 1989) **n. comb.**, *W. nujiangensis* (Lin and Xie, 1990) **n. comb.** and *W. fugongensis* (Gong and Li, 2020) **n. comb.**, respectively.

Introduction

The flea genus *Rowleyella* (Siphonaptera: Ceratophyllidae) was first erected by Dr. Robert E. Lewis (1971) in connection with his description of the type species *Rowleyella arborea*, Lewis, 1971, which had been collected from squirrels in Nepal. Three other species of *Rowleyella* have been described since then: *R. gongshanensis* Gong and Duan, 1989, *R. nujiangensis*

Lin and Xie, 1990 and *R. fugongensis* Gong and Li, 2020 (Gong and Duan, 1989; Lin and Xie, 1990; Gong and Li, 2020).

Although still in current use as a valid, accepted name (e.g., Gong and Li, 2020), *Rowleyella* Lewis, 1971 is a junior homonym of *Rowleyella* Weller, 1911 (Athyridida: Meristidae), a name applied to a genus of fossil meristelloid athyridid brachiopods (Weller, 1911; Alvarez and Brunton, 1995; Copper, 1996). Because it has no available and potentially valid synonyms, *Rowleyella* Lewis, 1971 requires a new replacement name, or *nomen novum*, under Article 60.3 of the International Code of Zoological Nomenclature (ICZN; International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature, 1999). Dr. Lewis, the original describer of this genus of fleas, died in 2017 (Eckerlin, 2017), so it is not possible to apply paragraph 3 of the ICZN's Appendix A (Code of Ethics) and extend to him the courtesy of coining the needed *nomen novum*. Instead, a suitable replacement name is established here. According to Lewis' (1971) original description of the genus, the name *Rowleyella* honors his esteemed colleague Dr. Wayne A. Rowley. To preserve this meaning, the new replacement name *Waynella* **nom. nov.** is proposed here by the author. It is derived by eliding Dr. Rowley's first name, Wayn(e), with the original generic name's Latin feminine suffix '-ella'.

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Declarations

Conflict of interest The author has no competing interests to declare that are relevant to the content of this article.

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