

CHANGES IN THE GENERIC NAMES OF THE ODONATA.

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WHILE compiling a list of the genera of Odonata and Protodonata, it became apparent that there were a number of names still in use which were preoccupied, as well as some designations of genotypes which had been completely overlooked, and which necessitate disturbing changes in the generic nomenclature of the Odonata. In this paper I propose to deal with the cases of the preoccupied generic names, together with the changes caused by the overlooked genotype fixations; I add some notes on some other recent or disputed interchanges of names. In a later paper I shall designate types for those genera which have had no genotypes validly proposed; finally I hope to be able to publish a complete list of the generic names and their genotypes.

It is with great pleasure that I associate the name of (the late) Dr. Ris with two new generic names (*Risiophlebia*, *Risiocnemis*), the only generic names in the Odonata hitherto dedicated to him being synonyms.

Acanthagyna Kirby, 1890, Cat. Odon.: 94. TYPE by present designation: *Gynacantha nervosa* Rambur (1842).

Rambur, 1842, Ins. Névr.: 209, erected the genus *Gynacantha* with species *quadrifida*, *furcata*, *trifida*, *bispina*, *subinterrupta*, *bifida*, and *nervosa*. Selys, 1857, in La Sagra, Hist. fis. pol. y nat. Cuba, 7 (2): 184, and Hist. phys. pol. nat. Cuba, 5, Ins.: 459, dealing only with a regional fauna, includes *trifida* and *septima* sp. nov. in *Gynacantha*, but did not thereby fix the type; in 1883, Bull. Acad. roy. Belg. (3) 5: 745, he erected the new genus *Triacanthagyna*, type *G. trifida*, and gave several types for *Gynacantha*, of which three were originally included species; *Gynacantha* thus remained without a valid genotype. Then Kirby, 1890, Cat. Odon.: 94, fixed the type of *Gynacantha* as *G. trifida*, of which *Triacanthagyna* thus became a synonym, and for *Gynacantha* Selys (1883) he proposed the new name *Acanthagyna*, but neglected to designate the type; from later notes (McLachlan, 1896, Ann. Mag. N.H., (6) 17: 411, and Kirby, 1897, *op. cit.* (6), 19: 614) it is evident that Kirby erroneously considered that Selys had in 1857 fixed *trifida* as the type of *Gynacantha*. But unfortunately there can be no doubt that Kirby (1890) fixed *trifida* as the type of *Gynacantha*, and since Williamson, 1923, Misc. Publ. Mus. Zool. Univ. Michigan, 9, and other authors consider *Triacanthagyna* and *Gynacantha* (*Acanthagyna*) as distinct genera, we must replace the name *Triacanthagyna* by *Gynacantha*, and *Gynacantha* (auctorum) by *Acanthagyna*. I have not been able to find a valid type-fixation for *Acanthagyna*, all the (invalid) designations subsequent to 1890 (Calvert, 1905, Biol. C. Amer. Neur.: 189—*G. nervosa*; Tillyard, 1916, J. Linn. Soc. Zool., 33: 70—*G. gracilis*) relating to