(1927) Proposal to conserve the name *Agaricus rachodes* (*Basidiomycota*) with that spelling

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Chlorophyllum rachodes (Vittad.) Vellinga is a common, widespread and edible mushroom species, whose name has been challenged by the alternative spelling ‘rachodes’.

In a separate paper (Vellinga & Pennycook in Taxon 59: 623–627. 2010, this issue) we outlined the history of the usage of the epithet ‘rachodes’ and its challenger ‘rhacodes’, and the range of potential etymologies, transliterations, and orthographies of these two epithets. Recapitulating briefly: Vittadini (Descr. Fung. Mang.: 158. 1833) described *Agaricus rachodes*, without an etymology either explicit or implied, but using that spelling of the epithet consistently. The variant spelling, ‘rhacodes’ was first introduced by Fries (Summa Veg. Scand.: 273. 1849) who alternated between the two spellings during his lifetime. After Saccardo’s (Syll. Fung. 5: 29. 1887) listing of the spelling ‘rhacodes’, this became the more commonly used spelling in Europe until the late 20th century, when it was reiterater that ‘rachodes’ was the correct original spelling (Candusso & Lanzoni, Fungi eur. 4, Lepiota: 536. 1990; De Kok & Vellinga in Persoonia 17: 70. 1998). Outside Europe, ‘rachodes’ remained the more commonly used spelling during the 20th and into the 21st centuries (e.g., Kauffman in Pap. Michigan Acad. Sci. 4: 328. 1924; Imazeki & Hongo, Colour. Ill. Fung. Japan: 48. 1962; May & Wood, Fungi Austral. 2A: 105. 1997; Pennycook, Fungi New Zealand 1: 192. 2004).

As Vittadini did not publish an etymology we have to guess at the meaning this word had for him. Two possible roots for the epithet are the Greek words ‘ραχος’ (rag) and ‘ραξγος’ (bush, quickset hedge); the derivations and transliterations of these can be spelled as ‘rachodes’, ‘rhacodes’, ‘rachodes’, and ‘rhacodes’. Article 60.1 of the ICBN (McNeill & al. in Regnum Veg. 146. 2006) requires that “the original spelling of a name or epithet is to be retained”, with the exception of typographical and orthographical corrections (plus a short list of typographical and grammatical standardisations, which does not include the transliteration of Greek words) and Art. 60 Ex. 1 exemplifies the fact that this does not permit the introduction of corrections based on “philologically preferable” forms. Article 60.3 discourages the introduction of corrections that change the first syllable of a name, another reason to retain the original spelling. Vittadini (Descr. Fung. Mang.: 158–162. 1833) was consistent in his use of ‘rachodes’ in the Latin text and ‘racode’ in the Italian. Furthermore, the original spelling has remained in use throughout the time since the original description. It is true that currently the spelling ‘rhacodes’ is used twice as often as ‘rachodes’ (based on an internet-based search engine; ‘rhacodes’ hits include some plant and algal genera). However, the two most influential fungal websites Index Fungorum and Mycobank both adopt the alternative spelling ‘rachodes’, and we expect that the numbers would begin to change if those authoritative institutions were to reintroduce the original ‘rachodes’, just as they did over a century earlier in Europe after Saccardo’s *Sylloge fungorum* listed ‘rhacodes’.

To end a longstanding nomenclatural dispute, we here formally propose to conserve the name *Agaricus rachodes* with the original spelling under ICBN Art. 14.11—this epithet spelling has remained constantly in use throughout the name’s 175-year history; a philological justification for the change to ‘rachodes’ cannot be sustained because of the unknown etymology; and ICBN Arts. 60.1 and 60.3 clearly support the retention of the original spelling.

(1928) Proposal to conserve the name *Veratrum* against *Melanthium* (*Melanthiaceae*)

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Typus: *V. album* L.

Typus: *M. virginicum* L.

The 45+ species of the *Veratrum* L.–*Melanthium* L. complex are distributed throughout temperate North America and north-temperate to arctic Eurasia and inhabit a wide range of (often alpine) habitats (Zomlefer in Harvard Pap. Bot. 2: 133–177. 1997; Zomlefer & al. in