



A replacement name for *Isodactylus* Hedges, Duellman, and Heinicke, 2008

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If it had not happened so many times in the last two and a half centuries, we would be embarrassed to admit that we created a new homonym, but such is the case. We (Hedges, Duellman & Heinicke 2008:108) proposed the generic name *Isodactylus* with the type species *Eleutherodactylus elassodiscus* Lynch (Anura: Strabomantidae) and included in the genus 13 species: *Isodactylus adercus* (Lynch), *I. araiodactylus* (Duellman & Pramuk), *I. babax* (Lynch), *I. brunneus* (Lynch), *I. dolops* (Lynch & Duellman), *I. elassodiscus* (Lynch), *I. fallaciosus* (Duellman), *I. latens* (Lynch), *I. lucida* (Cannatella), *I. lundbergi* (Lehr), *I. mantipus* (Boulenger), *I. nigrovittatus* (Andersson), and *I. peraccai* (Lynch).

Isodactylus Hedges, Duellman & Heinicke is preoccupied by *Isodactylus* Gray (Gray 1845:259). The name is listed in a section of Gray's catalogue dealing with agamid lizards; there is no association with a specific name, no description, and no illustration. Thus, *Isodactylus* Gray is a *nomen nudum*. According to Article 12 of the International Code of Zoological Nomenclature, *nomina nuda* are not available names. However, Dal Piaz (1927) proposed *Isodactylus* as a subgenus of *Anthracotherium* Cuvier, a genus of Artiodactyla from the Oligocene of Europe. Kretzoi (1941:349) proposed *Pachychoerops* as a replacement name for *Isodactylus* Dal Piaz, and Strand (1943:216) proposed *Isodactylella* as a replacement name for *Isodactylus* Dal Piaz. *Isodactylus* Dal Piaz, is an available name and therefore a senior homonym of *Isodactylus* Hedges, Duellman & Heinicke.

Consequently, we propose the name *Hypodactylus* as a replacement generic name for *Isodactylus* Hedges, Duellman & Heinicke. The name is derived from the Greek *hypo* meaning less than and the Greek *daktylos* meaning toe; the generic name, which is masculine in gender, refers to the narrow digital discs that are characteristic of the members of this genus.

Zouhri & Bensalmia (2005) listed *Hypodactylus* Cope in the synonymy of *Hipparion* de Christol, 1832. This is a misspelling of *Hippodactylus* Cope and as an incorrect subsequent spelling is not an available name (Article 33.3 of the International Code of Zoological Nomenclature). In a book containing out-of date and misspelled names, Bhamrah & Juneja (2003:169) used the name *Hypodactylus* presumably as a lapsus for *Hylodes*. Again this is not an available name.

At the present time *Hypodactylus* contains 13 species: *Hypodactylus adercus* (Lynch), *Hypodactylus araiodactylus* (Duellman & Pramuk), *Hypodactylus babax* (Lynch), *Hypodactylus brunneus* (Lynch), *Hypodactylus dolops* (Lynch & Duellman), *Hypodactylus elassodiscus* (Lynch), *Hypodactylus fallaciosus* (Duellman), *Hypodactylus latens* (Lynch), *Hypodactylus lucida* (Cannatella), *Hypodactylus lundbergi* (Lehr), *Hypodactylus mantipus* (Boulenger), *Hypodactylus nigrovittatus* (Andersson), and *Hypodactylus peraccai* (Lynch).

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