

Opisthobranch Newsletter

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INFORMATION EXCHANGE

From Jussi Evertsen: I have a question for you regarding the use of the search engine on the opisthobranch page. It is about the use of synonyms.

Take this example from the genus *Onchidoris* (Nudibranchia): I am interested in finding the valid name of a species within the genus *Onchidoris*. In my search for Nudibranchs in the collections of the Museum of natural history here in Trondheim I have found several species of *Onchidoris fusca* (Müller). But I also know that from the literature the same species has also been called *O. bilamellata* (L.). So, I looked it up in the search engine as to give me a quick overlook of the situation. Here is what came out;

Onchidoris bilamellata (Linnaeus, 1767) [= *Onchidoris fusca*]

Onchidoris fusca (Müller, 1776) [= *Onchidoris bilamellata*]

To me these two species quote back to each other, and in the first glance one might get a bit confused. But from the rule of senior synonyms, I take it that *O. bilamellata* (L., 1767) has the priority in being the eldest name, and therefore is the valid species name.

But, it is the "layout" which can be confusing, and there are several other such examples from other species when using the engine. Is there another meaning behind keeping the quotation back to the junior synonym? [ed., see comments below] - jussie@stud.ntnu.no

URL'S

Cyerce kikutarobabai <http://www.imicom.or.jp/~bolland/cyerkiku.html>
Hypselodoris sp. <http://siolibrary.ucsd.edu/slugsite/nudwk122.htm>
Phyllidia babai <http://www.imicom.or.jp/~bolland/phyllibaba.html>
Phyllidiopsis cardinalis <http://www.imicom.or.jp/~bolland/phyllcard.html>
Michael Miller has relocated the Slug Site to:
<http://slugsite.tierranet.com>. The site just keeps getting better and better. This is your best link to all of the other nudibranch sites.

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Editor's Notes:

Information on the Opisthobranch Site is not subject to scientific review and may not even have been "proof read." Information on the site should always be independently verified.

The search engine database has been updated significantly. The bibliography currently has included species names listed after many citations. I recently changed the 'taxon' part of the search engine to search both bibliography and taxon list. I hope several people will send me their 'subject' lists so that I can add that search. The fastest way to develop the subject list is to merge several electronic lists.