

NOMENCLATURE COMMUNICATIONS

(104) Request for a binding decision on whether the names *Actinostephanos* Khursevich (*Bacillariophyta*) and *Actinostephanus* F. Wen & al. (*Gesneriaceae*) are sufficiently alike to be confused**Umakant B. Deshmukh** *Institution of Higher Learning, Research and Specialized Studies Centre, Department of Botany, Janata Mahavidyalaya, Chandrapur – 442401, Maharashtra, India*Address for correspondence: Umakant B. Deshmukh, deshmukhumakant979@gmail.comDOI <https://doi.org/10.1002/tax.12808>

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- (104) *Actinostephanos* Khursevich (1989) [Algae]
Actinostephanus F. Wen & al. (2022) [Angiosp.: *Gesner.*]

***Actinostephanos* Khursevich**

The genus *Actinostephanos* was established by phycologist Galina K. Khursevich, Republic of Belarus (in Bot. Zhurn. 74: 487. 1989) to accommodate a single extinct marine and brackish-water planktonic species, *Actinostephanos matrensis* (Pant.) Khursevich (≡ *Stephanodiscus matrensis* Pant. in Beitr. Foss. Bacill. Ung. 2: 114. 1889). Later Khursevich & Tsoj added a second, new species, *Actinostephanos rudis* Khursevich & Tsoj (in Algologiya 2: 106–107. 1992) from the Kuril-Kamchatka Trench (North-West Pacific Ocean), and Kozurenko (in Bot. Zhurn. 88(11): 126. 2003) published the new combination *A. podolicus* (Missuna) Kozyr., based on a variety of *A. matrensis*. Currently the genus *Actinostephanos* Khursevich includes only three species names. The generic name *Actinostephanos* consists of two parts, both derived from the Greek. The first part, “*Actino-*”, is derived from ἀκτίς (aktís, “ray”, “beam”), meaning radiating; the second half, “*-stephanos*”, is a masculine given name derived from the Greek word στέφανος (stéphanos), meaning “wreath”, “crown”.

***Actinostephanus* F. Wen & al.**

As a result of morphological and phylogenetic analysis, the new monotypic genus *Actinostephanus* F. Wen, Y.G. Wei & L.F. Fu was established (Wen & al. in PhytoKeys 193: 95. 2022) from China with the type *A. enpingensis* F. Wen & al. (l.c.: 96). Currently, the genus *Actinostephanus* F. Wen & al. is an endemic to China with a single species. The generic name *Actinostephanus* consists of two parts,

both derived from the Greek as with *Actinostephanos*, i.e., ἀκτίς (aktís, “ray”, “beam”) and στέφανος (stéphanos, “wreath”, “crown”).

Conclusion

In my opinion, the two names are sufficiently alike to cause confusion despite belonging to different groups and geographical regions. For example, Khursevich & Tsoj (l.c.), mentioned “*Actinostephanus*” as a keyword when describing the new species *Actinostephanos rudis*. In addition, Oreshkina (in Kuznetsova & Muzylov, Quest. Micropaleontol. 31: 138. 1996) referred to “*Actinostephanus rudis* sp. n.”. Therefore, I am requesting a binding decision under the Art. 53.2 of the *Shenzhen Code* (Turland & al. in Regnum Veg. 159. 2018) as to whether the generic names *Actinostephanos* Khursevich and *Actinostephanus* F. Wen & al. are sufficiently alike to be confused and thus should be treated as homonyms. I believe that nomenclatural stability would be best served by a decision to treat them as confusable names. If a decision is made to treat them as homonyms, the later-published name, *Actinostephanus* F. Wen & al., would have to be given a new name in accordance with the *Code*.

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