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A change in the name of the type of *Chondria* C. Agardh (*Rhodomelaceae*, *Rhodophyta*)

Michael J. Wynne¹

Chondria nom. cons. was described by Agardh (1817) and as originally circumscribed comprised 29 species. “7 *Tenuissima* T. t. 100” is the first true *Chondria* to appear on Agardh’s list, and *C. tenuissima* (Gooden. & Woodw.) Agardh was chosen as the lectotype of the generic name (Schmitz, 1889; Schmitz & Falkenberg, 1897). Despite the fact that Goodenough & Woodward (1797) are generally credited with authorship of *Fucus tenuissimus* (Agardh, 1817; Silva, 1952; Kylin, 1956; Farr & al., 1979; Price & al., 1986; Gordon-Mills & Womersley, 1987), *Fucus tenuissimus* Withering (1796) has priority by one year. Although the third edition of Withering (1796) did not list *Ulva capillaris* Hudson as a synonym of *Fucus tenuissimus*, the similarity of the locality data (Christ Church and Margate) between Withering’s and Hudson’s species leave little doubt that they were dealing with the same alga. Also, in light of the fact that the paper by Goodenough & Woodward was originally “read April 7, 1795”, it is understandable how Withering was aware of the anticipated name change proposed by Goodenough & Woodward. This explanation is substantiated by the fact that in the fourth edition of Withering (1801) the entry of *Fucus tenuissimus* includes “*Ulva capillaris* Huds.” in synonymy. In addition, the 1797 publication of Goodenough & Woodward, “Linn. Tr. iii, 19”, is also credited. In Appendix III of the Seattle Code (Stafleu & al., 1972) the authorship of *Chondria tenuissima* appeared as “(Goodenough et Woodward) C. Agardh”, but starting with the Leningrad Code (Stafleu & al., 1978) this was corrected to “(Withering) C. Agardh”.

In their account of *Fucus tenuissimus*, Goodenough & Woodward (1797) placed *Ulva capillaris* Hudson (1778) in synonymy, since they “have been well assured that this plant [*Fucus tenuissimus*] is the *ulva capillaris* of Mr. Hudson”. Hudson’s plant was moved to *Fucus* for the simple reason that “it has nothing in common with the genus *Ulva*”. The obvious reason why Goodenough & Woodward provided a new epithet, *tenuissimus*, is that they must avoid making a later homonym, since a heterotypic *Fucus capillaris* Hudson (1778) already existed. So the binomial *Fucus tenuissimus* may be interpreted as a nom. nov. rather than as a sp. nov., but Withering (1796), rather than Goodenough & Woodward (1797), is to be credited with this name.

Hudson (1778) described *Ulva capillaris* on p. 571 and *Fucus capillaris* on p. 591. Smith (1790-1814), Withering (1801), and Turner (1802a, 1809) repeated the listing of *Ulva capillaris* Hudson in the synonymy of *Fucus tenuissimus*. *Fucus capillaris* was recognized as a different entity (Withering, 1801; Turner, 1802b, 1808). Lamouroux (1813) recognized both *Gigartina capillaris* (based on *Fucus capillaris* Hudson) and *Gigartina tenuissima* (based on *Fucus tenuissimus* Gooden. & Woodw. and *Ulva capillaris* Hudson). *Ulva capillaris* Poiret (1808) also appears in Lamouroux (1813) but is a later homonym. When Agardh (1817) established *Chondria* to include *Fucus tenuissimus*, he also recognized *Sphaerococcus capillaris* (based on *Fucus capillaris* Hudson). *Fucus capillaris* Hudson is the basionym of the red alga *Gloiosiphonia capillaris* (Hudson) Carmich. (Irvine, 1983). In discussing nomenclatural problems in

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reference to *Fucus tenuissimus*, Gordon-Mills (1987) erroneously asserted that *Ulva capillaris* of Hudson is now recognized as *Gloiosiphonia capillaris*, having confused the two Hudson taxa.

The next question concerns the lectotypification of *Ulva capillaris* Hudson. Dixon (1959, 1963) has shown that Hudson's original personal herbarium was largely destroyed by a fire in 1783, although some genuine holotype material survived. Irvine & Dixon (1982) reviewed the process of typifying Hudson's names, and *Ulva capillaris* would be included in the category of 29 new species based on Hudson's own material that were described in the second edition of 'Flora Anglica'. Mr. Stuart Honey (in lit., 21 Aug. 1990) informed me that he was unable to find anything under the name *Ulva capillaris* in the holdings of the BM (including BM-K and BM-SL).

Gordon-Mills (1987) lectotypified *Fucus tenuissimus* with a specimen "ex Herb. Dr. Goodenough" now in the BM. If *Fucus tenuissimus* is considered a nom. nov. for *Ulva capillaris*, the lectotype must be a Hudson specimen. Since the Hudson specimen apparently no longer exists, the Goodenough specimen of *Fucus tenuissimus* is a suitable neotype.

It appears that no one has ever recognized that *Ulva capillaris* Hudson is the oldest legitimate name applicable to the species representing the type of *Chondria*. Consequently, the following transfer is made:

***Chondria capillaris* (Hudson) M. Wynne, comb. nov.**

- ≡ *Ulva capillaris* Hudson, Fl. Angl. ed. 2, 571. 1778 (non *Fucus capillaris* Hudson, Fl. Angl. ed. 2, 591. 1778).
 - ≡ *Fucus tenuissimus* With., Arr. Brit. Pl. ed. 3, 1: 117. 1796; Gooden. & Woodw., Trans. Linn. Soc. London 3: 215. 1797.
 - ≡ *Chondria tenuissima* (With.) Agardh, Syn. Alg. Scand. xviii. 1817.
- Additional synonyms are listed in DeToni (1903).

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***Sobea indica*, a new name for *Bosea indica* Srivastava (Fossil)**

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Srivastava (1975) described a carbonized microsporangiate fructification of a Mesozoic pteridosperm from the Nidpur beds of India as *Bosea indica* gen. et sp. nov. The generic name *Bosea* had already been validated by Linnaeus in 1753 and is still in use for three species of *Amaranthaceae* (Airy Shaw in Willis, 1985: 153), including *B. amherstiana* J. Hooker of the Western Himalaya (Santapau & Henry, 1973: 25). Thus *Bosea* Srivastava is an illegitimate later homonym under Art. 64 of the ICBN (Greuter & al., 1988) and a replacement name and a new combination are needed. The replacement name, *Sobea*, is an anagram of *Bosea*.

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