

## ABSTRACTS

### When names are wrong and colours deceive: unravelling the *Pseudoceros bicolor* species complex (Polycladida)

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The polyclad *Pseudoceros bicolor* Verrill, 1901 derives its name from a distinctive two-coloured dorsal colouration, which according to the original species description, consists of a very dark, almost black central area with acute black lobes extending towards a translucent grayish margin (1). At least three different colour morphs have been described, ranging from a pale speckled brown through an evenly dark brown form, to a morphotype resembling the original species description (1-9). *Pseudoceros aureolineatus* (Verrill, 1901) is easily confused with the light brown colour morph of *P. bicolor*, and *P. rawlinsonae* Bolaños, Quiroga & Litvaitis, 2007 resembles both *P. bicolor* and *P. aureolineatus*. Using morphological characters of newly collected specimens and nucleotide sequences of the D1-D2 expansion segment (28S rDNA) the taxonomic validity of *P. rawlinsonae* and *P. bicolor* is confirmed and the description of their colourations emended. At the same time, the new sub-species, *P. bicolor marcusorum* nov. subsp. is erected, the genus *Cryptoceros* Faubel, 1984 is eliminated, and the new combination *Maritigrella aureolineata* nov. comb. (Euryleptidae) is established for *P. aureolineatus*.

\* The full text of this article is available in: Journal of Natural History, 44: 829-845. (2010)

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