

Taxonomic
NoteProposal of *Yaniellaceae* fam. nov., *Yaniella* gen. nov. and *Sinobaca* gen. nov. as replacements for the illegitimate prokaryotic names *Yaniaceae* Li *et al.* 2005, *Yania* Li *et al.* 2004, emend Li *et al.* 2005, and *Sinococcus* Li *et al.* 2006, respectivelyWen-Jun Li,¹ Xiao-Yang Zhi¹ and Jean P. Euzéby²

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The prokaryotic generic names *Yania* Li *et al.* 2004 and *Sinococcus* Li *et al.* 2006 are illegitimate because they are later homonyms of the names *Yania* Roewer 1919 (Opiliones, Arachnida, Arthropoda, Animalia), *Yania* Huang 1997 (Lepidoptera: HesperIIDae) and *Sinococcus* Wu and Zheng 2000 (Homoptera: Coccoomorpha) [Principle 2 of the *Bacteriological Code* (1990 Revision)]. Therefore, new generic names, *Yaniella* gen. nov. and *Sinobaca* gen. nov., are proposed for these taxa. In addition, a new family name, *Yaniellaceae* fam. nov., is proposed to accommodate *Yaniella* gen. nov. As a result, new combinations are required for the species to replace the illegitimate species names.

On 14 August 1999, the Judicial Commission (De Vos & Trüper, 2000) recommended that the change in wording of Principle 2 proposed by Tindall (1999) be accepted, with modifications:

‘The nomenclature of Prokaryotes is not independent of botanical and zoological nomenclature. When naming new taxa in the rank of genus or higher, due consideration is to be given to avoiding names which are regulated by the Zoological Code and the International Code of Botanical Nomenclature’.

Further, the addition of the following Note to Principle 2 was proposed:

‘Note. This principle takes effect with publication of acceptance of this change by the ICSB and is not retroactive’.

Later, the ICSB (International Committee on Systematic Bacteriology, now the International Committee on Systematics of Prokaryotes) voted unanimously in favour of this proposal (Labeda, 2000).

The minutes of the meetings of the Judicial Commission and the minutes of the meetings of the ICSB were published in the November 2000 issue of the IJSEM and, for all practical purposes, the new Principle 2 applies from 1 January 2001.

Li *et al.* (2004) published the description of a new taxon *Yania halotolerans* gen. nov., sp. nov., a novel member of the suborder *Micrococcineae*, isolated from a saline soil sample in China. Subsequently, a new family, *Yaniaceae* fam. nov., was proposed to accommodate the genus *Yania* (Li *et al.*, 2005) and a novel species, *Yania flava*, was included in the genus. *Sinococcus qinghaiensis* gen. nov., sp. nov., was proposed to represent a novel member of the order *Bacillales* (Li *et al.*, 2006). Recently, the names *Yania* and *Sinococcus* were proved to be illegitimate because of the precedence of the genus names *Yania* Roewer 1919 (Opiliones, Arachnida, Arthropoda, Animalia), *Yania* Huang 1997 (Lepidoptera: HesperIIDae; Huang, 1997) and *Sinococcus* Wu and Zheng 2000 (Homoptera: Coccoomorpha; Wu & Zheng, 2000) [Index to Organism Names (Thomson BIOSIS) at <http://www.organismnames.com>].

The illegitimate genus name *Yania* was chosen to honour Xun-Chu Yan (1912–1994), a Chinese microbiologist who devoted his life to the study of actinomycete taxonomy and antibiotics. The replacement genus name, *Yaniella*, was also chosen to honour him. As a result, the family *Yaniaceae* was replaced by *Yaniellaceae*. The illegitimate genus name *Sinococcus* indicated that this coccus-shaped microbe was isolated from locations in China. The replacement genus name, *Sinobaca*, was also

chosen to express similar meanings. There is no indication that the taxon names *Yaniellaceae*, *Yaniella* and *Sinobaca* have been used previously to designate taxa of bacteria, protists, algae, fungi, plants or viruses. The primary resources for searching the botanical and the zoological names were: Index Nominum Genericorum (ING) Plantarum (<http://ravenel.si.edu/botany/ing/ingForm.cfm>), Names in Current Use for Extant Plant Genera (NCU) (<http://www.bgbm.fu-berlin.de/iapt/ncu/genera/Default.htm>), algaeBASE (<http://www.algaebase.org/>) and Index of Organism Names (Thomson) (<http://www.organismnames.com>).

According to Principle 6 of the *Bacteriological Code* (1990 Revision) (Lapage *et al.*, 1992), the correct name of a taxon is based upon valid publication, legitimacy and priority of publication. An illegitimate name cannot be a correct name and must be replaced. The fact that the generic name is illegitimate does not affect the legitimacy of the species epithets (Rule 32b and Rule 51a). As a result, reference to the authors of the species epithet has been retained in the authorship of the resulting new combination (Rule 54).

Description of *Yaniella* gen. nov.

Yaniella [Ya.ni.el'la. N.L. fem. dim. n. *Yaniella* named after Xun-Chu Yan (1912–1994), a Chinese microbiologist who devoted his life to the study of actinomycete taxonomy and antibiotics].

Previous illegitimate name: *Yania* Li *et al.* 2004.

The description of the genus is as given for *Yania* in Li *et al.* (2004) and in Li *et al.* (2005). The type species is *Yaniella halotolerans* (Li *et al.*, 2004).

Description of *Yaniella halotolerans* comb. nov.

Yaniella halotolerans (ha.lo.to'le.rans. Gr. n. *hals* salt; L. pres. part. *tolerans* tolerating; N.L. part. adj. *halotolerans* referring to the organism's ability to tolerate high salt concentrations).

Illegitimate homotypic synonym: *Yania halotolerans* Li *et al.* 2004.

The description of the species is as given for *Yania halotolerans* in Li *et al.* (2004). The type strain is YIM 70085^T (=CCTCC AA001023^T=DSM 15476^T=JCM 13527^T).

Description of *Yaniella flava* comb. nov.

Yaniella flava (fla'va. L. fem. adj. *flava* golden yellow, referring to the colour of the colonies).

Illegitimate homotypic synonym: *Yania flava* Li *et al.* 2005.

The description of the species is as given for *Yania flava* in Li *et al.* (2005). The type strain is YIM 70178^T (=DSM 16377^T=KCTC 19047^T=JCM 13595^T).

Description of *Yaniellaceae* fam. nov.

Yaniellaceae (Ya.ni.el.la.ce'ae. N.L. fem. dim. n. *Yaniella* type genus of the family; *-aceae* ending to denote a family; N.L. fem. dim. pl. n. *Yaniellaceae* the *Yaniella* family).

Previous illegitimate name: *Yaniaceae* Li *et al.* 2005.

The description of the family is as given for *Yaniaceae* in Li *et al.* (2005). The type genus is *Yaniella*.

Description of *Sinobaca* gen. nov.

Sinobaca (Si.no.ba'ca. M.L. n. *Sina* China; L. fem. n. *baca* a grain or berry, and in bacteriology a coccus; N.L. fem. n. *Sinobaca* coccus-shaped microbe isolated from places in China).

Previous illegitimate name: *Sinococcus* Li *et al.* 2006.

The description of the genus is as given for *Sinococcus* in Li *et al.* (2006). The type species is *Sinobaca qinghaiensis* (Li *et al.*, 2006).

Description of *Sinobaca qinghaiensis* comb. nov.

Sinobaca qinghaiensis (qing.hai.en'sis. N.L. fem. adj. *qinghaiensis* pertaining to Qinghai, a province of north-west China).

Illegitimate homotypic synonym: *Sinococcus qinghaiensis* Li *et al.* 2006.

The description of the species is as given for *Sinococcus qinghaiensis* in Li *et al.* (2006). The type strain is YIM 70212^T (=KCTC 3943^T=DSM 17008^T).

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