

Five-day meeting on the naming of plants, fungi and algae recorded for posterity

February 2 2015



Nomenclature Section of the XVII International Botanical Congress, Vienna, Austria, in July 2005. Credit: IBC2005; Rudolf Hromniak

The five-day discussions and decisions of the Nomenclature Section of the XVII International Botanical Congress took place in Vienna, Austria

in July 2005. This meeting was held in association with the International Botanical Congress, which takes place every six years and is where the world's premier experts on the rules for naming plants, fungi and algae get together to debate and update the rule book for naming the organisms they study.

The primary product of the meeting, the International Code of Botanical Nomenclature, or "Vienna Code", was published in 2006. Another important product is the official report for the historical record, which has just been published as an open-access forum paper in *PhytoKeys*.

The Nomenclature meeting in Vienna was attended by 198 delegates. This particular meeting was fairly conservative in comparison with those at some earlier International Botanical Congresses. Relatively few changes to the International Code of Botanical Nomenclature were accepted, but a small number of significant changes and many useful clarifications and improvements were adopted.

Perhaps the most important decision regarded the publication status of theses submitted for a higher degree from 1953 onward. These would no longer be considered as effectively published for nomenclatural purposes unless a statement to that effect or other evidence was included. Three important sets of changes applying to the naming of fossils and fungi were also accepted.

More information: Flann C, McNeill J, Barrie FR, Nicolson DH, Hawksworth DL, Turland NJ, Monro AM (2015) Report on botanical nomenclature - Vienna 2005 XVII International Botanical Congress, Vienna: Nomenclature Section, 12-16 July 2005. *PhytoKeys* 45: 1-341. [DOI: 10.3897/phytokeys.45.9138](https://doi.org/10.3897/phytokeys.45.9138)

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