



REMARKS ON THE NAME OF THE HADROSAUROID DINOSAUR *EOLAMBIA CAROLJONESA* KIRKLAND, 1998 (ORNITHISCHIA)

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ABSTRACT – The large hadrosauroid dinosaur *Eolambia caroljonesa* was named in honor of Carol Jones, the discoverer of the place where the type specimens were found. However, according to the article 31.1.2 of the ICZN, the form *caroljonesae* should have been used and, thus, *caroljonesa* represents an incorrect original spelling subject to a justified emendation. Such emendation is required in cases on which the incorrect original spelling of a species-group name must be corrected, as stated by the article 32.5.1 of the ICZN. Therefore, based on the express application of the nomenclatural rules, the name of the species must be corrected to *Eolambia caroljonesae*.

Keywords: nomenclature, ICZN, *Eolambia caroljonesa*, Ornithischia, Hadrosauroidae.

Eolambia caroljonesa Kirkland, 1998 is a large hadrosauroid dinosaur from the Upper Cretaceous of the United States, described based on specimens from the Cedar Mountain Formation, Utah State (Kirkland, 1998). The species is known by copious fossil material, including adult and juvenile skeletal remains, eggshell fragments, and tracks, indicating that it was one of the most abundant large herbivores of the Upper Cretaceous of Southwestern United States (Kirkland, 1998). It was originally described as a basal member of Hadrosauridae, but subsequent studies found it to be a basal hadrosauroid outside of that family (Head, 2001; Normand 2002; Normand, 2004; McDonald *et al.*, 2010). The holotype and paratypes, all disarticulated partial skeletons, are housed at the College of Eastern Utah Prehistoric Museum, Price, Utah, and Oklahoma Museum of Natural History, Norman, Oklahoma.

The species was first known as *Eohadrosaurus caroljonesi* in Kirkland (1997, p. 99), a name introduced in a book chapter without an appropriate description that therefore became a *nomen nudum* under the rules of the International Code of Zoological Nomenclature (ICZN 1999). For this reason, a valid new genus name was proposed for that taxon in the following year by Kirkland (1998), *Eolambia caroljonesa*. In that description, the author stated that the specific name was in tribute to Carol Jones, who discovered the site where the

specimens have been found. The name *Eolambia caroljonesa* has been in use in the literature ever since (Head, 2001; Bolotsky & Godefroit, 2004; Horner *et al.*, 2004; Normand, 2004; Garrison *et al.*, 2007; Prieto-Márquez, 2010; McDonald *et al.*, 2010; Paul, 2010, 2016; Wang *et al.*, 2011; McDonald *et al.*, 2012; Prieto-Márquez *et al.*, 2016; Carpenter & Cifelli, 2016; McDonald *et al.*, 2017).

In this paper, I review the nomenclature of the species based on the express application of the nomenclatural rules. According to the Article 31.1 of the ICZN (1999), “A species-group name formed from a personal name may be either a noun in the genitive case, or a noun in apposition (in the nominative case), or an adjective or participle”. The fact of the species had been named as *E. caroljonesi* (even as a *nomen nudum*) and subsequently as *E. caroljonesa*, as stated in Kirkland (1998), undoubtedly indicates the author’s intention in forming a name in the genitive case. However, according to the same article of the Code (31.1.2), species-group names based on personal names in the genitive case must be formed by adding the stem of the name to a standard ending, as follows: “A species-group name, if a noun in the genitive case (see Article 11.9.1.3) formed directly from a modern personal name, is to be formed by adding to the stem of that name *-i* if the personal name is that of a man, *-orum* if of men or of man (men) and woman (women) together, *-ae* if of a woman, and *-arum* if of women; the stem of such a name is determined by the action of the original author when forming the genitive.” (bold emphasis mine). Hence, as the species was named after Carol Jones, a woman, the form *caroljonesae* should have been used and, thus, *caroljonesa* represents an incorrect original spelling subject to a justified emendation. Such emendation is required in cases on which the incorrect original spelling of a species-group name must be corrected, as stated by the article 32.5.1 of the Code, as follows: “If there is in the original publication itself, without recourse to any external source of information, clear evidence of an inadvertent error, such as a *lapsus calami* or a copyist’s or printer’s error, it must be corrected”. Therefore, based on the articles 31.1.2 and 32.5.1 of the Code, the name *Eolambia caroljonesa* is an incorrect original spelling that must be corrected to *Eolambia caroljonesae*.

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