Reclassification of *Halomonas caseinilytica* Wu et al. 2008 as a later synonym of *Halomonas sinaiensis*—Comments on the proposal by Hwang et al., Antonie van Leeuwenhoek 109:1345–1352, 2016

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Abstract Hwang et al. (Antonie van Leeuwenhoek 109:1345–1352, 2016) proposed the reclassification of *Halomonas caseinilytica* (Wu et al. 2008) as a later synonym of *Halomonas sinaiensis*, based on the publication of the latter name in 2007 by Romano et al. However, the name *H. sinaiensis* was validly published only in 2011. Therefore the proposal by Hwang et al. is not appropriate; instead, the name *H. sinaiensis* can be proposed as a later synonym of *H. caseinilytica*.

keywords *Halomonas* · Synonym · Valid publication · Emendation

In a paper recently published in Antonie van Leeuwenhoek, Hwang et al. (2016) proposed the reclassification of *Halomonas caseinilytica* (Wu et al. 2008) as a later synonym of *Halomonas sinaiensis*. This proposal was based on the publication of the name *H. sinaiensis* by Romano et al. (2007). Hwang et al. also presented an emended description of *H. sinaiensis*.

H. caseinilytica cannot be proposed as a later synonym of *H. sinaiensis* as the name *H. caseinilytica* has priority: it was validly published in 2008, while the name *H. sinaiensis*, effectively published by Romano et al. (2007), was validated only in Validation List 141, published in 2011 (Euzéby 2011). A proposal to reclassify *H. sinaiensis* as a later heterotypic synonym of *H. caseinilytica* would have been appropriate, accompanied by an emended description of *H. caseinilytica*.

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