

***Brevirhynchocyon* gen. nov., a new name for the genus *Brachyrhynchocyon* Senut, 2008 (Mammalia, Macroscelidea) preoccupied by *Brachyrhynchocyon* Loomis, 1936 (Mammalia, Carnivora)**

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In 2008, Senut described a new genus of Macroscelidea from the lower Miocene of the Northern Sperrgebiet in Namibia. As the name suggests, *Brachyrhynchocyon*, is a brachyodont animal with smooth premolars, large multipectinate upper incisors, and lacking m3. The new species *Brachyrhynchocyon jacobi* was erected as the type species of the new genus. In the same paper, *Miorhynchocyon gariopensis* (Senut, 2003) was transferred to the new genus, under the new combination *Brachyrhynchocyon gariopensis*.

However, the name *Brachyrhynchocyon* has already been used for an amphicyonid carnivoran (Loomis, in Scott and Jepsen, 1936). The type species of this genus is *Brachicyon intermedius* Loomis, 1931 from the Oligocene of North America. *Brachicyon* was shown to be preoccupied by *Brachicyon* Filhol, 1872 and so Loomis (1936) erected the new genus *Brachyrhynchocyon*. While compiling vertebrate taxonomic lists, one of us (G.G.) noticed the homonymy between the two genera. According to the International Code of Zoological Nomenclature (ICZN), *Brachyrhynchocyon* Senut, 2008, is a junior homonym of *Brachyrhynchocyon* Loomis, 1936. We therefore propose the new genus name *Brevirhynchocyon* gen. nov. to substitute *Brachyrhynchocyon* Senut, 2008. The new name also refers to the brachyodonty of this macroscelidid. *Brevis* is the latin synonym of the greek word brachys (βραχύς) meaning brief or short and *Rhynchocyon*, a modern genus of Macroscelididae and moreover a common ending for other genera of the family.

The two species of *Brachyrhynchocyon* Senut, 2008 are now reassigned as *Brevirhyn-*

*chocyon jacobi* (Senut, 2008) comb. nov., which is the type species by original designation of the new genus and *Brevirhynchocyon gariopensis* (Senut, 2003) comb. nov.

### References

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