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Nomenclature of woody plants in the state register of plant varieties of Ukraine

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Abstract. The efficiency of using plant resources depends on the correct use of plant names. In the scientific agricultural literature, Ukrainian names of plants belonging to the botanical and agrobiological classification are widely used, but neither of them are definitively ordered. The names of agricultural varieties were used in agricultural practice, namely during the systematization of zoned varieties of plants. When registering a variety, it is indicated to which taxon it belongs, and under this name it is entered in the State Register of Plant Varieties suitable for distribution in Ukraine. The list of plants accepted in the State Register is a mixture of correct and incorrect names, which arose as a result of the ill-conceived adaptation of the names of agrobiological nomenclature by comparing them to the names of botanical taxa. The State Register contains a list of registered varieties belonging to certain taxa, which are grouped by economic use. Varieties and taxa are sometimes placed in inappropriate groups. Varieties belonging to the same taxon are sometimes designated by different species names. For some taxa of woody plants, outdated Latin names are given or their spelling deviates from the accepted one. Some botanical taxa are designated by the names of varieties instead of the Ukrainian scientific name. There are russified names of crops instead of specific Ukrainian ones, and the rules of regulatory transliteration of varietal names are violated. The names of plants constructed in the State Register adversely affect professional literature. They destroy the system of agrobiological nomenclature and contradict the norms of the scientific style of the literary Ukrainian language. To correct the shortcomings, it is necessary to follow the recommendations of the International Code of Nomenclature for Algae, Fungi, and Plants and apply the “Rules of nomenclature, taxonomy, and cultonomy of plants”, developed to organize Ukrainian phytonymy

Keywords: taxa, species, trees, plant names

Introduction

Woody plant species comprise a considerable share of the cultural flora of Ukraine. Trees and shrubs are widely used in forestry, fruit growing and decorative gardening for wood, which has a variety of applications; edible fruits, which are an essential component of rational nutrition; aesthetic and

phytosanitary effect; the use of decorative, medicinal, and other properties. The effectiveness of using plant resources directly depends on the correct use of plant names, which may differ in scientific and folk nomenclature. Unlike the Latin nomenclature, where the names of taxa are regulated by the

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International Code of Nomenclature of Algae, Fungi, and Plants (Turland et al., 2018), Ukrainian scientific nomenclature stays rather disorganized. In the 21st century, several new dictionaries dedicated to plant names were published. The approach to their styling can be conventionally defined as “traditional”, based on names that were widely used in previous editions (Hrodzynskyi, 2001; Kohno & Kuznetsov, 2001; Kusheriavyi, 2001; Kokhno, 2002; Kokho & Trofimenko, 2005). But other scholars, when selecting new names, suggest using a “national” approach based on popular names (Kobiv, 2005), or, conversely, guided by “international” views, harmonizing the Ukrainian nomenclature as much as possible with the Latin (Zyman et al., 2008). The authors of this paper believe that it is most appropriate to organize Ukrainian scientific names of tree species based on generally accepted international names (Mezhenskyj, 2010, 2017, 2018; Yakubenko et al., 2017).

The purpose of this study was to analyse the names of woody plant species accepted in the State Register of Plant Varieties Suitable for Distribution in Ukraine (State Register), which in numerous instances is used by the authors when determining which names to use to indicate the object of research.

Materials and Methods

The main dictionaries and reference books concerning the names of Latin and Ukrainian names of woody plants published in the 21st century, as well as the latest version of the State Register, were analysed. The latter was compared with the version of the State Register created five years ago (2016), which was analysed earlier (Mezhenskyj, 2017), as well as with the directory of zoned varieties (Raionovani, 1990), which preceded the State Register.

Results and Discussion

In 1961, the International Convention for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants (the UPOV Convention) was signed in Paris, which raised the nomenclature of agricultural plants to the level of international law. The UPOV Convention entered into force in 1968 and was then revised several times – in 1972, 1978, and 1991. Ukraine became a member of the International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants (UPOV) in 1995, acceding to the 1978 Act, and in 2007 – to the 1991 Act. The UPOV Convention defines a variety as “a group of plants within the lowest known botanical

taxa” (International, 1991). Thus, varieties suitable for distribution in Ukraine are entered in the State Register, indicating the botanical taxon to which they belong.

Before the start of the State Register in Ukraine, the State Service for Varietal Testing of Agricultural Crops in the Ukrainian SSR annually issued lists of zoned varieties. In the last such reference book (Raionovani, 1990), woody plants are represented in the following cultivar groups:

- ✓ fruit crops (apple, pear, quince, etc.);
- ✓ berry crops (currants, raspberries, sea-buckthorn, etc.);
- ✓ nut-bearing fruits (hazelnuts, walnuts);
- ✓ mulberry;
- ✓ clonal rootstocks of apple trees;
- ✓ peach rootstocks;
- ✓ forest crops (poplar);
- ✓ flower and decorative crops (hybrid tea rose, garden jasmine, lilac, etc.).

The names of crops of zoned varieties of woody plants are usually one-word (apple, mulberry, poplar, etc.) and coincide, in most cases, with the Ukrainian names of botanical genera. If the composition of the same genus includes several different cultivars, they are also marked with one-word traditional names, e.g., “черешня” (sweet cherry) and “вишня” (cherry), “слива” (plum) and “алича” (myrobalan plum). Numerous decorative varieties of roses are distributed among cultons with a two-word name: “троянда чайногібридна” (hybrid tea rose), “троянда грандіфлора” (grandiflora rose), “троянда флорібунда” (floribunda rose), “троянда поліантова” (polyantha rose), “троянда напівплетиста” (semi-climbing rose), “троянда плетиста” (climbing rose). Several other cultures have two-word names: “волоський горіх” (walnut), “смородина чорна” (black currant), and “жасмин садовий” (garden jasmine). In the case of the last two varieties, the adjective is placed in an incorrect postposition to the noun, while in the names of these cultons it should be the other way around. The applied name “смородина чорна” (black currant) is a calque from the Russian language, where there is a need to distinguish the cultures “красная смородина” (red currant) and “чёрная смородина” (black currant). In the Ukrainian language, there is no such need, since the word “смородина” denotes only one native species – *Ribes nigrum*, and the fruit culture based on this taxon and its hybrids. At the

same time, Ukrainian language has a common generic name for the genus *Ribes* – “порічки”. Due to the similarity of this spelling of the variety to the species name, this name is perceived as a species, although in this case, as in all others, it is not the taxon name, but a culton name. A cultivar name that matches the generic name *Philadelphus* should be correctly reflected as “садовий жасмин”. In the names of groups of roses, the adjective must precede the noun. However, according to the system adopted in the edition, the names of similar cultures were ordered by the nesting method when the generic name was placed first. Because of this, such names are perceived as specific names, although they are not.

Thus, zoned varieties of agricultural plants were usually assigned to certain cultivars and cultivar groups. The names of these cultons had Ukrainian names that are part of the agrobiological terminological system. Traditional Ukrainian names of crops in most cases coincide with botanical generic names. Due to russification, the names of some cultivars have a distorted appearance, such as “грецький горіх” (instead of “волоський горіх” – walnut), “персик” (instead of “бросквина” – peach), “абрикос” (instead of “абрикоса” – apricot). The disadvantage of this list of zoned varieties is also the mistaken attribution of almonds to berry cultivars.

With Ukraine’s independence and accession to the UPOV, the system of registration of plant varieties has changed. Registered varieties, instead of the list of zoned varieties, began to be entered in the State Register because only registered varieties were allowed for industrial cultivation in Ukraine. Since the registration of a new variety is linked to the name of the taxon to which this variety belongs, varieties in the State Register began to be grouped not by cultivar names, but by taxon names. However, the lack of awareness of the transition from the agrobiological nomenclature adopted for zoned varieties to the botanical nomenclature adopted for registered varieties has led to an eclectic mixing of both systems.

In the latest version of the State Register, effective as of March 4, 2021 (Derzhavnyi, 2021), varieties of woody plants are distributed among the following economic groups:

- ✓ agricultural: cereals (*Vitex agnus-castus* L.);
- ✓ agricultural: fodder (*Vitex cannabifolia* L.);
- ✓ fruits and berries (*Malus domestica* Borkh.; *Pyrus communis* L.; *Cydonia oblonga* Mill. and others);

- ✓ grapes (*Vitis vinifera* L.);
- ✓ decorative and medicinal products (*Rhododendron simsii* Planch.; *Syringa vulgaris* L.; *Rosa* L. etc.);
- ✓ forest (*Pinus sylvestris* L.);
- ✓ others (*Salix fragilis* L.; *Salix viminalis* L.; *Paulownia* Sieb. et Zucc. etc.).

This classification is surprising because there is no reason to classify species of the genus *Vitex* as cereals or fodder cultivars. Compilers of the State Register unjustifiably placed the fruit varieties of “хеномелес каліфорнійський” (California chaenomeles) in the group of decorative cultivars, although the varieties of “хеномелес японський” (Japanese chaenomeles) are located among fruit cultivars. The name of the group itself, “fruits and berries”, unscientifically contrasts berries with fruits. Grapes are isolated from fruit plants. The authors of this paper can agree with this because the cultivation of grapes has long been transferred to a specific industry – viticulture, although it meets the definition of “fruit cultivar”.

Woody plants comprise the largest share of fruit cultivars, the vast majority of which are represented by trees, shrubs, and lianas. Varieties are distributed among taxa of different ranks. This is usually the species name: *Prunus avium* L., *Ribes rubrum* L., *Viburnum opulus* L., etc. Some of the taxa are given a generic name, such as *Actinidia* Lindl., or a section rank, such as *Rubus* subgenus *Eubatus* sect. *Moriferi* & *Ursini*. However, other pages contain varieties that belong to particular species of these genera, e.g. *Actinidia chinensis* Planch. or *Rubus idaeus* L. Individual varieties are marked not by publicized nothospecies names, but by hybrid formulas: *Cydonia oblonga* Mill. × *Malus domestica* Borkh. The disadvantage of all the names listed in the State Register is that the authors of taxa and taxon rank designations are italicized, while they should be displayed normally. There are cases of incorrect or outdated citation of authors: *Actinidia purpurea* Rehd. × *Actinidia arguta* Planch. instead of *Actinidia arguta* (Siebold & Zucc.) Planch. ex Miq. × *Actinidia arguta* var. *purpurea* (Rehder) C.F.Liang ex Q.Q.Chang, *Chaenomeles* × *californica* W.Clarke ex C.Weber instead *Chaenomeles* × *californica* W.B.Clarke ex C.Weber, *Chaenomeles japonica* (Thunb.) Lindl. instead of *Chaenomeles japonica* (Thunb.) Lindl. ex Spach, *Paulownia* Sieb. & Zucc. instead of *Paulownia* Siebold & Zucc., *Prunus avium* L. instead of *Prunus avium* (L.)L., *Vitex cannabifolia* L. instead of *Vitex cannabifolia* Siebold &

Zucc., and the last name is outdated. It is merely a synonym to *Vitex negundo* var. *cannabifolia* (Siebold & Zucc.) Hand.-Mazz. It is not necessary to include numerous synonyms along with the taxon name, such as *Cornus mas* L. (*Cornus maculata* L.; *Cornus erythrocarpa* St.-Lag.; *Cornus flava* Steud.; *Cornus homerica* Bub.; *Cornus nudiflora* Dumort.; *Cornus praecox* Stokes; *Cornus vernalis* Salisb.; *Macrocarpium mas* Nakai; *Cornus sativa* Poit. et Turp.; *Eucrania mascula* Raf.), or *Pistacia vera* L. (*Pistacia trifolia* L.; *Pistacia narbonensis* L.; *Pistacia nigricans* Crantz; *Pistacia terebinthus* Mill.; *Pistacia officinarum* Ait.; *Pistacia macrophylla* Pers.; *Pistacia reticulata* Willd.), which are unnecessary “information noise”. There is currently no sense in adding the label *sensu stricto* to the generic name *Cydonia* Mill.

A substantial disadvantage of the State Register is the use of outdated names that do not correspond to the current level of knowledge. For instance, hazelnut varieties are placed under the taxon name *Corylus maxima* Mill. This comes from the fact that, according to the method of examination of hazelnut varieties, they were classified as *Corylus maxima*. Since there is currently no reason to separate *Corylus maxima* from *Corylus avellana* L., new hazelnut varieties are entered in the State Register under the correct name, but the simultaneous indication of two names of the same taxon confuses agrarians. Some of them use outdated names in their scientific papers, referring to the State Register, which is unreasonably considered exemplary on nomenclature issues. The listing of varieties of the same crop under distinct species names leads to more misunderstandings: *Vaccinium myrtilloides* Michx. and *Vaccinium corymbosum* L., with the first taxon being named “чорниця канадська” (Canadian blueberry) and the second being “лохина високоросла” in one place and “чорниця” in another. Blackberry varieties are placed in various places under an outdated name *Rubus* subgenus *Eubatus* sect. *Moriferi* & *Ursini*. In fact, registered blackberry varieties are complex hybrids between representatives of different sections of the subgenera *Rubus* and *Idaeobatus*. Placing *Cydonia oblonga* ‘IC 2-3’ and ‘IC 4-6’ varieties under the name *Pyrus communis* is incorrect. In numerous instances, “mines” are laid already at the stage of examination of varieties because the applicant of a new variety is offered to choose a botanical name from the list of approved taxa names, which does not correspond to the current level of knowledge.

As for Ukrainian names, the State Register demonstrates blatant inconsistency. In some cases, the Ukrainian name of the taxon corresponding to the Latin original is given: *Cydonia oblonga* – “айва довгаста” (oblong quince), *Actinidia chinensis* – “актинідія китайська” (Chinese actinidia), in other cases it is replaced by a borrowed cultivar name. For instance, *Vaccinium corymbosum*, “лохина щиткова” (blueberry corymbosum), is named “лохина високоросла” (after the American cultivar name – Highbush Blueberry). *Hippophae rhamnoides* L., “щець жостероподібний”, is called “обліпиха крушиновидна” (after the Russian name, the species epithet of which does not correspond to the Latin original because “крушина” is *Frangula*, and *Rhamnus* is “жостір”; “обліпиха” is an acceptable name for a fruit cultivar, but there is no need to replace it with the specific Ukrainian generic name of a plant native to Ukraine). *Juglans regia* L., “горіх царський”, is called “горіх грецький” (a Russified name that is an Ukrainism in Russian), which is known in culture as “волоський горіх”. Some taxa in the Ukrainian language have one-word names (“черешня”, “смородин”), so the imitation of the Russian name for *Ribes nigrum* L. as a “смородина чорна” is superfluous. Some taxa that have a binary specific Latin name are translated by the one-word Ukrainian name *Ribes rubrum* L. – “порічки” (instead of “порічки червоні”). Recognition of the genus *Prunus* s.l. led to the replacement of the species names of stone cultivars. However, in the use of gardeners, it is worth leaving the traditional names of cultivars: “абрикоса” (apricot), “вишня” (cherry), “мигдаль” (almond), remembering the difference between the binary taxon name and the cultivar name. It is worth getting rid of the Russified names “абрикос” (in Ukrainian “абрикоса”), “персик” (in Ukrainian “бросквина”). Varieties of one of the stone crops included in the State Register are assigned to the taxon with the outdated name *Prunus divaricata* Ledeb. and called “алича” (plum spreading, cherryplum). In fact, these are interspecific hybrids of *Prunus cerasifera* Ehrh. × *Prunus salicina* Lindl., which in horticultural practice is called “гібридна/великопліда алича” (hybrid or large-fruited myrobalan plum). Similarly, varieties registered as “вишня звичайна” (common cherry) – *Prunus cerasus* L., are interspecific hybrids of *Prunus avium* (L.)L. × *Prunus cerasus* L. This also applies to other cultivars where varieties of interspecific

origin are assigned to one of the parent species, although they belong to recognized nothotaxa.

The names of Ukrainian varieties are duplicated in Latin transliteration, and the names of varieties in Latin have Ukrainian matches. However, the names are transliterated so that it is impossible to correctly establish the original name, e.g., the apple variety 'SQ 159' is translated as 'СКЮ 159'. Instead of the normative transliteration approved by

Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers No. 55 of 27.01.2010, the State Register for some reason applies the rules of the GOST 7.79-2000 standard (ISO 9:1995), which Ukraine did not adopt. The names of varieties are accompanied by names in Russian, and Ukrainian varieties are either translated, or transliterated, yet or left in the original spelling. These and other inconsistencies are also inherent in previous versions of the State Register (Mezhenskyj, 2017).

Names of tree cultivars according to different classification systems

Botanical classification		Agrobiological classification	Inappropriate taxon names in the State Register
Latin species name	Ukrainian species name	cultivar name	
<i>Chaenomeles japonica</i> (Thunb.) Lindl. ex Spach	Японська айва звичайна, або хеномел(ес) японський	Японська айва	Хеномелес японська
<i>Corylus avellana</i> L.	Ліщина авелльська	Фундук	Ліщина звичайна
<i>Cornus mas</i> L.	Дерен чоловічий	Дерен	Дерен справжній (кизил)
<i>Diospyros kaki</i> L.	Хурма какі	Хурма	Хурма східна
<i>Hippophae rhamnoides</i> L.	Щець жостероподібний	Обліпіха	Обліпіха крушиновидна
<i>Juglans regia</i> L.	Горіх царський	Волоський горіх	Горіх грецький
<i>Prunus armeniaca</i> L.	Слива вірменська, або абрикоса	Абрикоса	Абрикос звичайний
<i>Prunus cerasifera</i> Ehrh.	Слива вишненосна, або алича	Алича	Алича (слива розлога, вишнеслива)
<i>Prunus cerasus</i> L.	Слива вишнева	Вишня	Вишня звичайна
<i>Prunus dulcis</i> (Mill.) D.A.Webb	Слива солодка	Мигдаль	Мигдаль звичайний
<i>Prunus persica</i> (L.) Batsch	Слива перська	Бросквина (персик)	Персик звичайний

Botanical classification		Agrobiological classification	Inappropriate taxon names in the State Register
Latin species name	Ukrainian species name	cultivar name	
<i>Rhododendron simsii</i> Planch.	Рододендрон Симса	Рододендрон	Азалія Сімса
<i>Rosa</i> L.	Шипшина	Шипшина; троянда	Троянда
<i>Rosa damascena</i> Mill.	Шипшина дамаська	Етероолійна троянда	Троянда ефіроолійна дамаська
<i>Ribes nigrum</i> L.	Порічки чорні, або смородина	Смородина	Смородина чорна
<i>Ribes rubrum</i> L.	Порічки червоні	Червоні порічки; порічки	Порічки
<i>Ribes uva-crispa</i> L.	Порічки виноградокучеряві, або агрус виноградокучерявий	Агрус	Агрус звичайний
<i>Salix viminalis</i> L.	Верба лозова (лозяна)	Верба (лозова верба, кошикарська верба)	Верба прутувидна
<i>Vaccinium corymbosum</i> L.	Лохина щиткова	Високоросла лохина	Лохина високоросла; чорниця

Under the influence of the State Register, in scientific works, namely in theses, in recent decades, incorrect constructions of names that do not correspond to the nomenclature code or the norms of the scientific style of the Ukrainian language have been increasingly used (Mezhenskyj, 2020).

Conclusions

In crop production, namely in forestry and horticulture, two systems of nomenclature are used in parallel: agrobiological, which operates on the names of cultivars, and botanical, which is based on the scientific names of taxa. The State Register of plant

varieties suitable for distribution in Ukraine contains inconsistencies in the names of taxa and cultivars and the distribution of varieties by use groups. There is an unconscious replacement of the cultivar names with names that follow species names in form. This destroys the system of agrobiological nomenclature and contradicts the norms of the scientific style of the literary Ukrainian language. It is possible to correct the situation by following the recommendations of the International Code of Nomenclature for Algae, Fungi, and Plants and consistent application of the “Rules of Nomenclature, Taxonomy, and Cultonomy of Plants”.

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Номенклатура деревних рослин у державному реєстрі сортів рослин України

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Анотація. Ефективність використання рослинних ресурсів залежить від правильного вживання назв рослин. У науковій сільськогосподарській літературі широко застосовують українські назви рослин, що належать до ботанічної та агробіологічної класифікації, проте обидві з них остаточно не упорядковано. Назви сільськогосподарських культур вживали в аграрній практиці, зокрема під час систематизації районованих сортів рослин. У процесі реєстрації сорту позначають, до якого таксона він належить, і під цією назвою вносять до Державного реєстру сортів рослин, придатних для поширення в Україні. Перелік рослин, що прийняті в Державному реєстрі, є сумішшю правильних і неправильних назв, що виникла внаслідок неосмисленого адаптування назв агробіологічної номенклатури шляхом уподібнювання їх назвам ботанічних таксонів. Державний реєстр містить перелік зареєстрованих сортів, що належать до певних таксонів, які згруповано за господарським використанням. Інколи сорти й таксони розміщено в невідповідних групах. Сорти, що належать до одного й того самого таксона, подекуди позначені різними видовими назвами. Для деяких таксонів деревних рослин наведено застарілі латинські назви або їхнє написання має відхилення від прийнятого. Частина ботанічних таксонів замість української наукової назви позначено назвами культур. Трапляються зросійщені назви культур замість питомо українських, порушуються правила нормативної транслітерації сортових назв. Сконструйовані у Державному реєстрі назви рослин негативно впливають на фахову літературу. Вони руйнують систему агробіологічної номенклатури і суперечать нормам наукового стилю літературної української мови. Для виправлення недоліків потрібно дотримуватися рекомендацій Міжнародного кодексу номенклатури для водоростей, грибів і рослин і застосовувати «Правила номенклатури, таксономії та культономії рослин», розроблені для упорядкування української фітонімії

Ключові слова: таксони, види, дерева, назви рослин