Diploneis parapetersenii Lange-Bertalot & Fuhrmann, nom. nov.: a replacement name for Diploneis pseudopetersenii Lange-Bertalot & Fuhrmann, nom. illeg. (Bacillariophyta, Diploneidaceae)

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The name Diploneis pseudopetersenii Lange-Bertalot & Fuhrmann was introduced in Lange-Bertalot, Fuhrmann and Werum (2020) to refer to a new freshwater diatom species from Lake Shkodra, north-western Albania. The authors were at that time unaware of the previously existing name Diploneis pseudopetersenii Cholnoky (Cholnoky 1963: 49, figs 24–25), introduced for a marine species in the same genus from South Africa. Since our name is a later homonym of the name introduced by Cholnoky (1963), it is illegitimate and a replacement name is required:

Diploneis parapetersenii Lange-Bertalot & Fuhrmann, nom. nov.


The epithet “parapetersenii” was coined to indicate a resemblance to Diploneis petersenii Hustedt (Hustedt 1937), a freshwater species that is often misidentified. Diploneis parapetersenii is frequently mistaken for D. petersenii. It is difficult—though not impossible—to differentiate the two species in LM view. In SEM view, however, they are easily distinguished by the absence of volate areolae in D. petersenii; for detailed, differential diagnoses see Lange-Bertalot, Fuhrmann & Werum (2020).

We wish to thank Michael Guiry for bringing our attention to the illegitimate name.

