

A note concerning *Helix tristrami* from Mount Carmel

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Germain (1921: 155) mentioned in the synonymy of *Helix (Theba) carmelita* Tristram¹: '*Helix tristrami*¹ Martens, cité par C.A. Westerlund 1889, p. 88 (non *Helix tristrami* Pfeiffer 1860, p. 136)'. Although *H. carmelita* Tristram is a junior synonym of *Monacha crispulata* (Mousson, 1861) neither Forcart (1976) nor Mienis (1980) mentioned *H. tristrami* as another synonym of it.

A check of Westerlund (1889: 88) revealed the following entry: '? *H. carmelita* Tristram syn. *H. tristrami* Mts. 1865', in spite of the fact that Von Martens never used that name in one of his papers published in 1865!

To our surprise the solution of this problem was found in a most unlikely place: the Mollusca section of the Zoological Record for the year 1865 prepared by E. von Martens. In his enumeration of new *Helix* species described in 1865, Von Martens (1866: 273) added to the original reference of *Helix carmelita* Tristram '..... (As this specific name is already preoccupied by Férussac for a species, not from Mount Carmel, but supposed to resemble in its colours the dress of the Carmelite monks, we would propose the name *H. tristrami*)'. Germain (1921: 155), however, stated correctly that L. Pfeiffer in 1860 had used the name *Helix tristrami* for a North African helicellid, making Von Martens' name a junior homonym. At the same time Von Martens created another synonym of *Monacha crispulata*, of which the following primary synonyms are now known:

Monacha (Monacha) crispulata (Mousson, 1861)

Helix crispulata Mousson, 1861, Vjschr. naturf. Ges. Zürich 6: 12.

Helix carmelita Tristram, 1865, Proc. Zool. Soc. London 1865: 532 – not *Helix (Helicigona) carmelita* Férussac, 1821.

Helix tristrami von Martens, 1866, Zool. Rec. 2: 273 – not *Helix tristrami* Pfeiffer, 1860.

Helix montiscarmeli Tristram, 1884, Fauna & Flora Palestine: 182.

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¹ As a matter of fact Germain misspelled the name Tristram and the specific name *tristrami* respectively as *Tristam* and *tristami*. To avoid any further errors we are using the correct spelling.