Template for Taxonomic Proposal to the ICTV Executive Committee
Species in an existing genus

Code † FT2003.0441.01 To designate the following viruses as species in the genus:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ranavirus</th>
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belonging to the family° Iridoviridae

Bohle iridovirus
Epizootic haematopoietic necrosis virus
Ambystoma tigrinum virus
Santee-Cooper ranavirus
European catfish virus

† Assigned by ICTV officers
° leave blank if inappropriate or in the case of an unassigned genus

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New Taxonomic Order
Order
Family Iridoviridae
Genus Ranavirus
Type Species Frog virus 3
List of Species in the genus Bohle iridovirus
Epizootic haematopoietic necrosis virus
Ambystoma tigrinum virus
Santee-Cooper ranavirus
European catfish virus

List of Tentative Species in the Genus
List of Unassigned Species in the Family
**Argumentation to justify the designation of new species in the genus**

**Species demarcation criteria in the genus**

Species are distinguished by several criteria: the percent common bands in RFLP profiles, size distribution of viral proteins (SDS-PAGE), percent amino acid/nucleotide sequence identity/similarity among key viral genes (e.g., major capsid protein, ATPase, etc.), and host range.

Species show

1. unique RFLP profiles, i.e., <70% bands held in common,
2. distinctive viral protein profiles,
3. <95% sequence identity/similarity between select viral genes,
4. a distinctive range of susceptible species.

**Argumentation to justify the designation of new species in the genus**

While ranaviruses cannot be distinguished from each other serologically, the different species can be demarcated based on the multiple criteria listed above. Moreover, although viruses within this genera can infect multiple animal species, it is becoming clear that some species are clearly more susceptible than others to infection with a given agent. By using the multiple criteria listed above (e.g., RFLP and protein profiles, amino acid/nucleotide sequence identity, and susceptible animal species) we can distinguish 6 species within the genus *Ranavirus*.

**List of created Species in the genus**

- Bohle iridovirus
- Epizootic haematopoietic necrosis virus
- Ambystoma tigrinum virus
- Santee-Cooper ranavirus
- European catfish virus
References


Annexes: