

## TWO ORNITHISCHIAN DINOSAURS RENAMED: *MICROCERATOPS* BOHLIN 1953 AND *DICERATOPS* LULL 1905

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THE CERATOPSIAN dinosaur genera *Diceratops* Lull, 1905 and *Microceratops* Bohlin, 1953 are preoccupied by the Hymenoptera insects, *Diceratops* Foerster, 1868 and *Microceratops* Seyrig, 1952, respectively. Therefore, the name of the ceratopsian dinosaur *Diceratops* Lull, 1905 from the Late Cretaceous of United States is a junior homonym of the hymenoptera *Diceratops* Foerster, 1868. *Diceratus* n. gen. (Greek di = “two,” Greek ceratos = “horned”) is proposed as the replacement name of *Diceratops* Lull, 1905. Some workers have considered *Diceratops* synonymous with *Triceratops* (e.g., Dodson and Currie, 1990) but it was reinstated by Forster (1996) after analysis of the characteristics of all existing ceratopsid skulls, and recent reviews (e.g., Dodson et al., 2004) have considered *Diceratops* a valid genus.

Due to preoccupation, the name of the ceratopsian dinosaur *Microceratops* Bohlin, 1953 from the Cretaceous of the Gobi is a junior homonym of the insect *Microceratops* Seyrig, 1952. *Microceratus* n. gen. (Greek micro = “small,” Greek ceratos = “horned”) is proposed as the replacing name of *Microceratops* Bohlin, 1953.

Sereno (2000:489) has declared *Microceratops* a *nomen dubium* since the holotype material lacks any diagnostic features, a convention followed by You and Dodson (2004:480). However, the name is still used by Le Loeuff et al. (2002), Lucas (2006), Alifanov (2003) and Xu et al. (2002), and such practice justifies the renaming of the genus.

In order to preserve some stability, the names chosen here deliberately preserve the same prefixes.

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