The name of the Forest Thrush *Cichlherminia lherminieri* on Montserrat

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The Forest Thrush *Cichlherminia lherminieri* is endemic to the Lesser Antilles, and until recently the population on Montserrat was known as *C. l. lawrencii* Cory, 1891. With the merger of this monotypic genus into *Turdus* (Chesser *et al.* 2009) based on results of DNA sequences, the name *lawrencii* Cory, 1891, becomes preoccupied by *Turdus lawrencii* Coues, 1880 (itself a replacement name for *T. brunneus* Lawrence, 1878; the Lawrence’s Thrush of Amazonia), so Zuccon (2011) proposed *Turdus lherminieri montserrati* nom. nov. for it, stating that no available junior synonym exists.

With the kind permission of D. Zuccon (*in litt.* 2013), we would like to draw attention to another name for this taxon: *Planesticus lherminieri dorotheae* Wolters, 1980 (p. 407, left column, footnote 1). Although Wolters (1980) treated both species in the genus *Planesticus* the circumstances are no different in *Turdus*; the name *dorotheae* is thus also available and has priority. The Forest Thrush of Montserrat should therefore be called:

*Turdus lherminieri dorotheae* (Wolters, 1980).

The name *Turdus lherminieri montserrati* Zuccon, 2011, becomes a junior objective synonym of *Planesticus lherminieri dorotheae* Wolters, 1980. If new research should demonstrate that this taxon is best returned to *Cichlherminia*, or should Lawrence’s and Forest Thrushes be placed in different genera, the name *lawrencii* Cory, 1891, can be used once again; see Art. 59.4 of the *International code of zoological nomenclature* (ICZN 1999).

References:


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