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Proteothrinax nom. nov., a replacement name for *Thrinax* Pfeil, 1983 (Elasmobranchii: Chlamydoselachidae)

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The name *Thrinax* was created by Pfeil (1983: 111) for a new genus of fossil frilled sharks from the former quarry "Schlößlbruch" (47° 55' 55.04" N 12° 59' 48.26" E), located 500 m E of the church of St. Pankraz at the W slope of the Haunsberg, 15 km NE of Salzburg in Austria.

This quarry is closed and recultivated, but until two decades ago a fossil-rich glauconitic layer – the "Fossilschicht" – attracted both scientists and collectors.

The traditional lithostratigraphic name "Fossilschicht" (Traub, 1953) is replaced by the Weitwies Subformation which builds the top of the Kressenberg Formation in the sedimentary sequence of the Austrian/Bavarian Southern Helvetic Zone (Rasser & Piller, 1999).

The chronostratigraphic age of the Weitwies Subformation is Middle Eocene, Lutetian, represented by the biostratigraphic Nannoplankton Zone NP 16 (Hagn, 1981).



Fig. 1. A new complete specimen of *Proteothrinax baumgartneri* (Pfeil, 1983), collected at the type locality by Hannes Peschl.

Type species of *Thrinax* Pfeil is *Thrinax baumgartneri* Pfeil, 1983: 112, by monotypy.

There is presently no junior synonym of *Thrinax* Pfeil. Richter & Ward (1990: 69) "feel that the case for the existence of a separate chlamydoselachiid genus cannot be made on such limited material. It would appear that the criteria upon which *Thrinax* is separated from *Chlamydoselachus* are within the normal variation of *Chlamydoselachus*. We therefore regard *Thrinax* as a junior synonym of *Chlamydoselachus* and the type species, *T. baumgartneri*, is a junior synonym of *Chlamydoselachus fiedleri*." I cannot follow this and will present here a redescription of *Thrinax baumgartneri* with a new arrangement of all so far described Chlamydoselachidae. Cappetta (2006: 386) listed *Thrinax* Pfeil as a valid genus.

But *Thrinax* Pfeil is a junior homonym of *Thrinax* Konow, 1885: 22–23 in Insecta: Hymenoptera. *Thrinax* Konow, 1885 became a junior synonym of *Strongylogaster* Dahlbom, 1835 but this does not affect its availability (ICZN Article 10.6.: "A name once available remains so irrespective of its invalidity as a junior synonym.")

Therefore a replacement name is needed for *Thrinax* Pfeil.

Konow did not explain the etymology of the name, but *Thrinax* is the ancient Greek word θρίναξ, meaning a three-jagged hay fork.

Τρίαινα is the ancient Greek name for Poseidon's trident and *tridens* the Latin word for Neptune's spear. Unfortunately many suitable word combinations with "*Thrinax*", "*Triaina*" and "*Tridens*" have already been used as genus names.

To continue my idea in naming this genus of fossil frilled sharks according to the general morphology of the trident teeth and in relationship to the Greek mythology, I establish here *Proteothrinax* as the new replacement name, a combination of the name Proteus (Πρωτεύς), an early sea-god, whose name suggests "the first" (from Greek ordinal πρώτος "first") with θρίναξ. Proteus is usually illustrated with a three-jagged spear. The grammatical gender is feminine.

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