

Taxonomic Note

Lunulipes, a replacement name for the trace fossil *Lunula* Hitchcock, 1865, preoccupied

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Edward Hitchcock (1865) erected the ichnogenus *Lunula* with a single ichnospecies, *L. obscura*, for trackways (Fig. 1) that were discovered in the Lower Jurassic Turners Falls Formation of the Deerfield Basin in Massachusetts. As noted by Häntzschel (1965), however, and reiterated by Anderson (1981) later, Hitchcock's application of that genus name to a trace fossil

established an invalid junior homonym because Koenig (1825) had previously used *Lunula* for a bryozoan. The junior homonym must be replaced under Article 60 of the International Code of Zoological Nomenclature (ICZN, 1999). I propose the new ichnogenus name *Lunulipes* (from the Latin, *lunula*, moon or crescent, and *pes*, foot; meaning "crescent foot") for *Lunula* Hitchcock, 1865, preoccupied. The name *Lunulipes* n. ichnogen. is justified because examination of all 11 trackways included within the ichnogenus indicates that it is distinct. A more thorough review of this taxon, including an analysis of proposed trackmakers, will be presented elsewhere. Since *Lunulipes* is masculine, the species name becomes *obscurus* in order to agree in gender with the new genus name. Thus, the new combination is *Lunulipes obscurus*.

References

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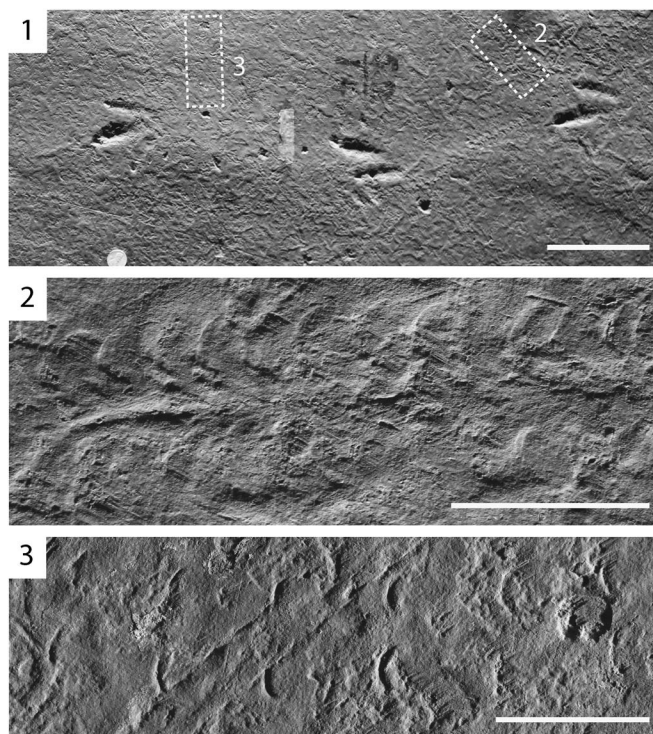


Figure 1. *Lunulipes obscurus* new combination from the Lower Jurassic Turners Falls Formation of the Deerfield Basin in Massachusetts: (1) overview of a slab labeled ACM ICH 52/14, which is in the collection of the Beneski Museum of Natural History at Amherst College, which bears seven *L. obscurus* n. comb. in addition to ornithischian dinosaur tracks; (2) close-up of the boxed region labeled 2 in the slab overview showing a portion of the lectotype, designated by Rainforth (2005), with a medial drag; (3) close-up of the boxed region labeled 3 in the slab overview showing a trackway lacking a medial drag. Scale bars are 10 cm in (1) and 2 cm in (2) and (3).