Morihara and McCafferty (1979, Trans. Am. Entomol. Soc. 105: 139–221) in their revision of the Baetis larvae of North America included three unnamed but otherwise comprehensively described species as Baetis sp. A, Baetis sp B [= Baetis magnus McCafferty and Waltz (1986. Proc. Entomol. Soc. Wash. 88: 604)], and Baetis sp. C. These were initially unnamed because, although distinctive, the possibility remained that they were associated with formerly named adults since they had not been reared.

Baetis sp. A was based on larvae from Castron and Otero counties in New Mexico and Los Angeles County, California. We have just recently acquired the original material of Baetis from Baja California described by Allen and Murvosh (1983. Ann. Entomol. Soc. Am. 76: 425–433). From our comparative examinations we have determined that Baetis caelestis Allen and Murvosh is an available name for Baetis sp. A of Morihara and McCafferty. The Allen and Murvosh type material was made up of a mixture of larvae, some of which we have identified as Baetis tricaudatus Dodds. The holotype, however, is clearly identifiable as Baetis sp. A. Our finding is based in part on the presence of robust setae on the serrate margins of the gills.

We call attention to the equivalency of Baetis sp. A to Baetis caelestis because Baetis caelestis, based on the original description and discussion that followed, cannot be distinguished from many other species of Baetis or even placed in the rhodani species group, to which it belongs. If reference is made to Baetis sp. A, however, Baetis caelestis larvae can be readily distinguished by the description, figures, and key of Morihara and McCafferty (1979). Unfortunately, due to an inadvertent inversion of letters in that key, users should note that Baetis caelestis will key to sp. B and Baetis magnus will key to sp. A.

We thank W. J. Pulawski and N. D. Penn of the California Academy of Science for the loan of specimens. This paper is Purdue Experiment Station Journal No. 11,155.

W. P. McCafferty and R. D. Waltz, Department of Entomology, Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana 47907.