

## A new species of *Chostonectes* from Australia (Coleoptera: Dytiscidae)

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### Abstract

*Chostonectes watsi* n.sp. is described from North-Queensland, Australia.

Key words: Dytiscidae, *Chostonectes*, new species, taxonomy, Australia.

Collections of Dytiscidae from Australia by the author revealed a new species of the genus *Chostonectes* SHARP which is described below. The genus *Chostonectes* was last revised by WATTS 1978 where he included four species and gave figures of the male genitalia. The same species are listed by WATTS (1985).

### *Chostonectes watsi* n.sp.

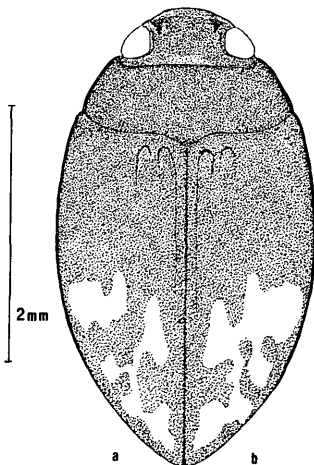
Type locality: Millaa Millaa, N-Queensland, Australia.

Type material: Holotype, ♂: Australia, QL (17) Millaa Millaa, 1100m, 50km W Innisfail, 20.1.1993, leg. Wewalka, (Australian National Insect Collection (ANIC), CSIRO, Canberra).

Paratypes (9♂♂, 14♀♀): Same data as holotype (in coll. Wewalka, ANIC, Zool. Museum Helsinki, Naturhist. Museum Wien).

Diagnosis: *C. watsi* n.sp. is very closely related to *C. sharpi* SHARP. It can be distinguished from the latter by the black head, the entirely black pronotum, the different colouration of the elytra and the male genitalia.

Description: Length of body: 3,5 - 4mm, width: 2 - 2,2mm. Habitus: Rather narrowly oval, convex, without an angle between pronotum and elytra when observed from above (fig. 1).



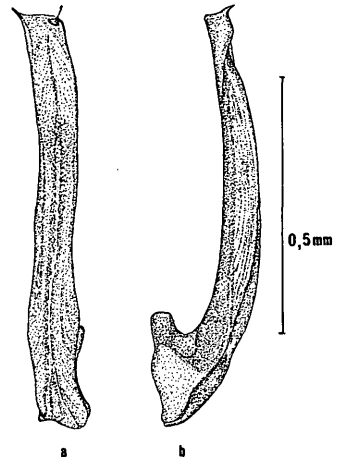
Head: Black, anterior and posterior margin somewhat lighter. Anterior margin regularly rounded, not bordered. Antero-medial of each eye with a shallow depression. Punctuation relatively coarse and sparse. Microsculpture consisting of coarse longitudinal wrinkles.

Pronotum: Black. Side margin almost straight except at the anterior part; narrowly bordered. Punctuation relatively coarse and sparse, regular, somewhat more dense near the anterior margin and the sides. Short testaceous setae inserted in the punctures. Shiny between the punctuation, lacking microreticulation.

Elytra: Black with testaceous markings on the posterior half consisting of several irregular spots often confluent (fig. 1).

◁ Fig. 1: *Chostonectes watsi* n.sp.; body outline and colouration; a: paratype ♀; b: holotype ♂.

Fig. 2: *Chostonectes wattsi* n.sp.; penis of holotype;  
a: dorsal view; b: lateral view.



Shallow depressions along the anterior part of the suture and the medial part of the base intensified by some additional coarse punctures. Punctuation very coarse and relatively dense, regular. Short testaceous setae inserted in the punctures. Shiny between the punctuation, lacking microsculpture except for obsolete reticulation on the posterior half. Epipleura black, coarsely but very sparsely punctate.

Ventral side: Black. Metacoxal lines raised, subparallel in anterior and posterior quarters, moderately diverging in middle. Prothorax impunctate, metathorax and metacoxal plates very coarsely but relatively sparsely punctate; First and second segment of abdomen coarsely punctate, the other segments less coarsely and more sparsely punctate. Lacking microsculpture.

Antennae testaceous, slender and simple. Legs testaceous to ferruginous.

Males: Pro- and mesotarsomeres not dilated; inner claw of protarsus thicker. Penis (fig. 2), Parameres formed equally (fig. 3).

Females: Very similar to males.

Distribution: Australia: N-Queensland.

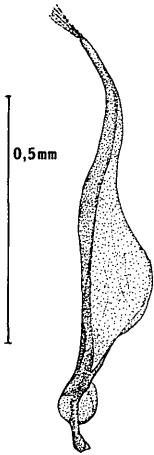
Biology: Pool in a mountain river, 3 - 4m broad. The new species was collected in the biotop together with *Costonektes sharpi*.

Ethymology: The species epithet is derived from the name of Dr. C.H.S. Watts, Adelaide, in recognition of his work on Australian water beetles.

### Zusammenfassung

Eine neue Art der Gattung *Chostonectes* (*C. wattsi*) wird beschrieben. Die neue Art ist sehr nahe verwandt mit *C. sharpi* SHARP und wurde auch im selben Biotop gesammelt.

◀ Fig. 3: *Chostonectes watti* n.sp.; left paramere of holotype.



### References

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