

AUSTROTHAUMALEA BICKELI SPEC.NOV., A NEW THAUMALEID FROM AUSTRALIA

(INSECTA: DIPTERA: THAUMALEIDAE)

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A b s t r a c t : *Austrothaumalea bickeli* spec.nov. is described after a single male from Barrington Tops National Park in New South Wales, Australia.

Introduction

The Thaumaleidae comprise a homogeneous family of small stoutly built flies which are of world wide distribution. The larvae are aquatic and amphipneustic.

Until recently fewer than one dozen species of Thaumaleidae were known from the southern hemisphere (EDWARDS 1930; SCHMID 1970; STUCKENBERG 1960, 1961; TONNOIR 1927). However, lately, in a paper of revisional character THEISCHINGER (1986) described 21 species in 2 genera, *Austrothaumalea* TONNOIR (Australia, New Zealand, South America) and *Niphta* THEISCHINGER (Australia, South America) from Australia alone. A male *Austrothaumalea* from Barrington Tops National Park, made available by Dr D.J. Bickel (Sydney); does not belong to any of THEISCHINGER's (1986) species and is described below.

It should be mentioned that MCLELLAN (in print) has described another new genus and 9 new species from New Zealand which makes a total of 39 described southern hemisphere species of Thaumaleidae.

Austrothaumalea bickeli spec.nov.

(Figs 1-3)

D e s c r i p t i o n (δ). Colouration: head blackish brown; thorax dull yellow; legs yellowish brown to dark greyish brown; wing and halteres yellowish to greyish brown; abdomen greyish brown.

Wings: R3 strongly sinuous; CuA+1A distinctly bent and with well developed appendix.

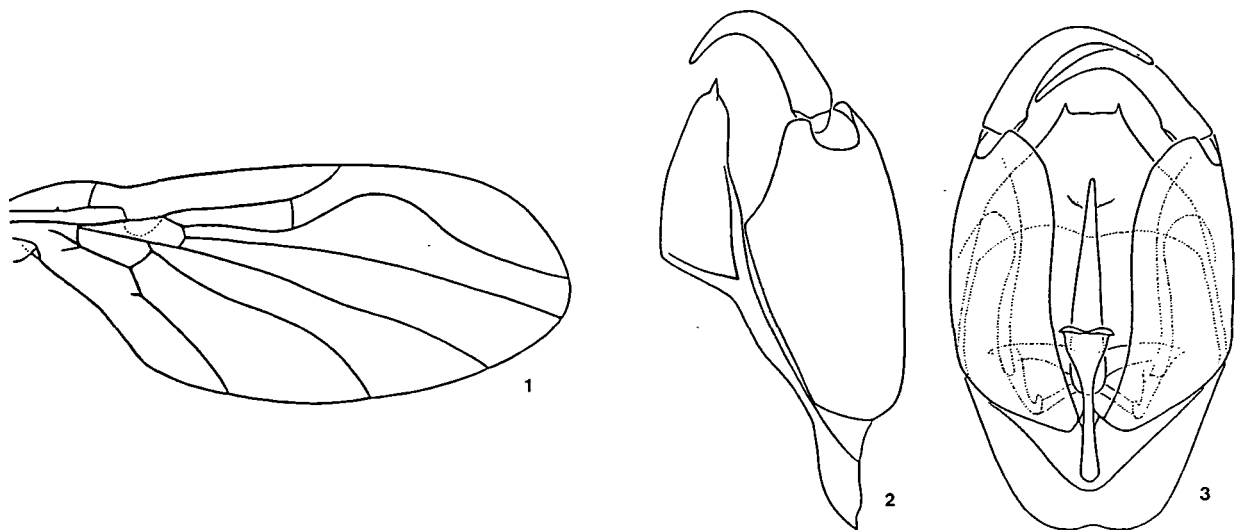
Genitalia: tergite 9 trapezoid, posterior corners strongly produced; basistyles reaching almost level of posterior margin of tergite 9; dististyles slightly and evenly curved and tapering from base to the rounded apex; parameres slender and conical as seen from ventral aspect; aedeagus tulip-shaped. Dimensions: wing length 2,3 mm.

M a t e r i a l e x a m i n e d. Holotype δ : New South Wales, Barrington Tops National Park, upper Williams River, 550 m, 26.1.1987, D.J. Bickel (ANIC).

Distribution. New South Wales; hitherto known only from Barrington Tops (type locality).

Name. This species is dedicated to its discoverer and collector, Dr D.J. Bickel.

Diagnosis. Although *A. bickeli* is very similar to several Australian species of *Austrothaumalea*, the combination of genitalic features as presented above is unique.



Figs 1-3. *Austrothaumalea bickeli* spec.nov., male: 1, wing; - 2,3, genitalia: 2, lateral aspect; - 3, ventral aspect.

Zusammenfassung

Austrothaumalea bickeli spec.nov. wird nach einem einzelnen Männchen aus dem Barrington Tops National Park in Neusüdwaales, Australien, beschrieben.

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