

Two remarkable new species of *Molophilus* CURTIS from Australia (Insecta: Diptera: Tipuloidea, Limoniidae)*)

Günther THEISCHINGER

Two new species of Australian Limoniidae are introduced. They are *Molophilus driesseni* sp. n. from Tasmania and *Molophilus franzspetai* sp. n. from south-eastern New South Wales. Both species belong in the *Molophilus gracilis* group sensu THEISCHINGER (1988a). Whereas *M. driesseni* appears to be a rather isolated species, *M. franzspetai* has a close relative in *M. drepanostylus* ALEXANDER from north-eastern New South Wales.

THEISCHINGER G., 2012: Zwei bemerkenswerte neue Arten von *Molophilus* CURTIS von Australien (Insecta: Diptera: Tipuloidea, Limoniidae).

Zwei neue australische Limoniiden Arten werden eingeführt. Es sind dies *Molophilus driesseni* sp. n. von Tasmanien und *Molophilus franzspetai* sp. n. vom Südosten von New South Wales. Beide gehören zur *Molophilus gracilis* Gruppe sensu THEISCHINGER (1988a). Während *M. driesseni* ziemlich isoliert erscheint, hat *M. franzspetai* eine nahe verwandte Art in *M. drepanostylus* ALEXANDER vom Nordosten von New South Wales.

Key words: *Molophilus*, new species, Australia.

Introduction

The Australian species of *Molophilus* CURTIS were revised by THEISCHINGER (1988a, 1988b, 1992). These revisional papers were updated by descriptions of additional species by THEISCHINGER (1994, 1996, 1999, 2000). This is another attempt to update the information on *Molophilus* by adding two species of the *M. (M.) gracilis* group sensu THEISCHINGER (1988a).

Material and Methods

The specimens described are preserved in 70% ethanol. Their coloration may have suffered from changes due to their preservation. The illustrations of the male genitalia (hypopygium) are from specimens cleared in KOH and displayed in glycerol.

Results

Molophilus driesseni sp. nov. (Figs. 1, 2)

Material: Holotype ♂, Tasmania, Lake St Clair, pitfall RCE (young) 10, 428470 5331230 +- 100 m, 1. 6.2000, M. DRIESSEN. Paratypes: 1 ♂, 1 ♀, type locality, RCW (old) 4, 428400 5331260 +- 100 m, 26. 4.2000, M. DRIESSEN; 10 ♀♀, type locality, M. DRIESSEN. All material in the collection of the author (GTS).

Etymology: This species is dedicated to Dr. Michael DRIESSEN who supported some of my taxonomic studies in Australia.

*) Dedicated to Dr. Franz SPETA on his 70th birthday.

Description

Male. Head dark greyish brown, palps and antennae slightly paler; antennae yellowish to pale brownish grey. Thorax yellowish to pale greyish brown. Legs pale yellowish brown, with apex of femora and base and apex of tibiae hardly darker. Wings slightly suffused with dull yellow. Halteres pale brown. Abdomen including hypopygium dark yellowish brown to pale greyish brown.

Hypopygium (Figs 1, 2): Gonocoxites lacking dorsal spine; what is probably the ventral lobe of the gonocoxites situated apically, flat and subtriangular with its apex narrowly rounded; inner gonostylus stout, bifid, boot-shaped in profile; outer gonostylus hand-shaped, with base very slender; aedeagus relatively long, slender and strongly curved.

Wing length 3.8–4.0 mm.

Female.

Coloration much as in male but head slightly paler. Cerci and hypogynial valves very slender.

Wing length 3.3–3.9 mm.

Discussion

A rather isolated member of the *Molophilus (M.) gracilis* group sensu THEISCHINGER (1988a). Not particularly similar to any other described species from Australia.

Diagnostic characters: Particular shape of all elements of the hypopygium (as illustrated and described above).

***Molophilus franzspetai* sp. nov.** (Figs. 3, 4)

Material: Holotype ♂, New South Wales, Thredbo, along Thredbo River, 25. 12. 2010, G. Theischinger; in the collection of the author (GTS).

Etymology: This species is dedicated to Univ.-Doz. Dr. Franz SPETA who collected with me at its type locality and who also took a supportive interest in my tipulid studies in Europe and in Australia.

Description

Male. Head dark greyish brown, palps slightly darker; antennae yellowish to pale brownish grey. Thoracic terga dark greyish brown, pleura somewhat paler. Legs pale to dark greyish brown, with apex of femora and base and apex of tibiae slightly darker. Wings slightly suffused with greyish yellow. Halteres yellowish white with stem slightly darker than knob. Abdomen including most of hypopygium pale to medium greyish brown.

Hypopygium (Figs 3, 4): Dorsal spine of gonoxites very slender, strongly curved basally, straight apically; ventral lobe of gonocoxite situated rather basally, long and slender with apex narrowly rounded; basal section of inner gonostylus straight and moderately wide, apical third slender and sigmoid with apex pointed; aedeagus relatively short and slender; segment 9 with well-developed medio-ventral nose-like projection.

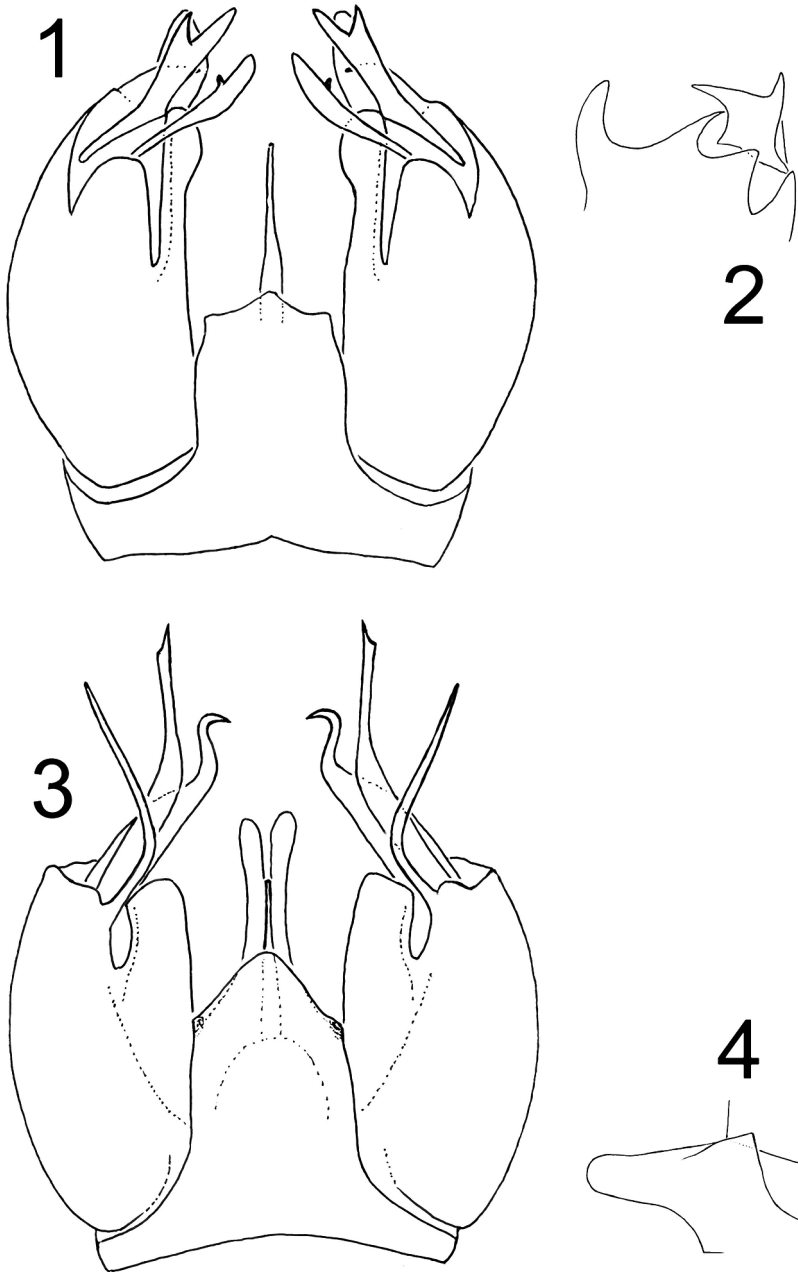
Wing length 5.7 mm.

Female unknown.

Discussion

A member of the *Molophilus (M.) gracilis* group sensu THEISCHINGER (1988a). Most similar to *M. (M.) drepanostylus* ALEXANDER from north-eastern New South Wales.

Diagnostic characters: Slenderness and particular shape of all elements of the hypopygium (as illustrated and described above).



Figs. 1–4: *Molophilus* (*M.*) species: 1, 2) *Molophilus* (*M.*) *driesseni* sp. n., ♂: 1) hypopygium, dorsal; 2) apical section of gonocoxite showing outer gonostylus (in profile), lateral. 3, 4) *Molophilus* (*M.*) *franzspetai* sp. n., ♂: 3) hypopygium, dorsal; 4) ventral section of segment 9, lateral. Not to scale. – Abb. 1–4: *Molophilus* (*M.*) Species: 1, 2) *Molophilus* (*M.*) *driesseni* sp. n., ♂: 1) Hypopygium, dorsal; 2) apicaler Teil des Gonocoxits mit Äußerem Gonostylus (im Profil), lateral. 3, 4) *Molophilus* (*M.*) *franzspetai* sp. n., ♂: 3) Hypopygium, dorsal; 4) ventraler Teil von Segment 9, lateral. Nicht maßstabgetreu.

Acknowledgements

Dr. M. DRIESSEN (Hobart) is thanked for supplying interesting Tipuloidea for study.

References

- THEISCHINGER G., 1988a: The genus *Molophilus* CURTIS in Queensland and Western Australia (Insecta: Diptera: Tipulidae: Limoniinae: Eriopterini). *Stapfia* 17, 163–200.
- THEISCHINGER G., 1988b: *Lyriomolophilus*, a new subgenus of *Molophilus* CURTIS, from Australia and its species (Insecta: Diptera: Tipulidae: Limoniinae: Eriopterini). *Stapfia* 17, 201–209.
- THEISCHINGER G., 1992: The Limoniinae (Diptera: Tipulidae) of Australia. II. The genus *Molophilus* CURTIS. *Stapfia* 27, 5–150.
- THEISCHINGER G., 1994: The Limoniinae (Diptera: Tipulidae) of Australia. IV. New and insufficiently known species of *Gynoplistia* MACQUART and *Molophilus* CURTIS (Diptera: Tipulidae: Limoniinae) from Australia. *Stapfia* 36, 1–36.
- THEISCHINGER G., 1996: The Limoniinae (Diptera: Tipulidae) of Australia. VI. New and insufficiently known species of *Toxorhina* LOEW, *Limonia* MEIGEN, *Atarba* OSTEN SACKEN, *Amphineurus* SKUSE, *Gonomyia* MEIGEN and *Molophilus* CURTIS. *Stapfia* 44, 1–18.
- THEISCHINGER G., 1999: The Limoniinae (Diptera: Tipulidae) of Australia. IX. New taxa of *Gynoplistia* MACQUART, *Gonomyia* MEIGEN and *Molophilus* CURTIS. *Linzer biol. Beitr.* 31/1, 493–502.
- THEISCHINGER G., 2000: The Limoniinae (Diptera: Tipulidae) of Australia. X. New species of *Toxorhina* LOEW, *Limonia* MEIGEN, *Austrolimnophila* ALEXANDER, *Gynoplistia* MACQUART and *Molophilus* CURTIS. *Linzer biol. Beitr.* 32/2, 1181–1190.

Received: 2011 12 01

Address:

Prof. Günther THEISCHINGER, 2A Hammersley Rd, Grays Point NSW, Australia 2232. E-Mail: Gunther.Theischinger@environment.nsw.gov.au.

ZOBODAT - www.zobodat.at

Zoologisch-Botanische Datenbank/Zoological-Botanical Database

Digitale Literatur/Digital Literature

Zeitschrift/Journal: [Verhandlungen der Zoologisch-Botanischen Gesellschaft in Wien. Früher: Verh. des Zoologisch-Botanischen Vereins in Wien. seit 2014 "Acta ZooBot Austria"](#)

Jahr/Year: 2012

Band/Volume: [148_149](#)

Autor(en)/Author(s): Theischinger Günther

Artikel/Article: [Two remarkable new species of *Molophilus* Curtis from Australia \(Insecta: Diptera: Tipuloidea, Limoniidae\). 275-278](#)