



## Review and Revision of *Nysius* Dallas of Australia and South West Pacific (Hemiptera: Heteroptera: Orsillidae)

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### Abstract

During a review of Australian *Nysius* Dallas, types of all species recorded from Australia and its territories and neighbouring areas in the South West Pacific were examined. As a result of this, the following synonymies have become necessary: *Nysius andrewsi* Izzard and *N. usingeri* Izzard as junior synonyms of *N. vinitor* Bergroth; *N. clevelandensis* Evans, *N. turneri* Evans, *N. pacificus* China, *N. dissimilis* Izzard, and *N. villicus* Van Duzee as junior synonyms of *N. caledoniae* Distant. Other species from Australia and the South West Pacific which have had their status confirmed in this study are: *N. spectabilis* Distant, *N. pulchellus* Stål, *N. picipes* Usinger, *N. oceanicus* Usinger, and *N. femoratus* Van Duzee. A lectotype is designated for *N. vinitor* Bergroth. A key to all species now recognised from Australia and the SW Pacific is provided.

**Key words:** complex group of species; researching doubtful status; type specimens; lectotype designation; new synonymy; diagnoses; genitalia; key to recognised species; distribution

### Introduction

An overview of the family Orsillidae (formerly in the Lygaeidae, as Orsillinae) in Australia is given in Malipatil (2005), together with comments on economic importance, and, worldwide, the very high number of species (over 100, almost half the species in the family) in the genus *Nysius*.

Within Australia and its territories, eight species of *Nysius* are listed in Cassis & Gross (2002). Malipatil (2005) brought this to 10 by describing *Nysius orarius* Malipatil from New South Wales and *N. tasmaniensis* Malipatil from Tasmania. The new genus and species *Reticulatonysius queenslandensis* Malipatil (Orsillinae, Tribe Nysiini) were also described in that paper and added to the Australian fauna.

My 2005 study noted the complexities and nomenclatural uncertainties of some of the Australian species of *Nysius*, and indicated that the study needed extending beyond Australia to include at least another six species to resolve this and sort out synonymies.

In addition, a further four species of *Nysius* Dallas from the South West Pacific were also included in the revision, and shown to be valid species.

In the present study an attempt was made to examine the types of these species, to review their taxonomic identity. As a result, the establishment of the following synonymies has become necessary: *N. andrewsi* Izzard and *N. usingeri* Izzard as junior synonyms of *N. vinitor* Bergroth; *N. clevelandensis* Evans, *N. turneri* Evans, *N. pacificus* China, *N. dissimilis* Izzard, and *N. villicus* Van Duzee as junior synonyms of *N. caledoniae* Distant.

The remaining species from this region, *N. spectabilis*, *N. pulchellus* Stål, *N. picipes* Usinger, *N. oceanicus* Usinger, and *N. femoratus* Van Duzee, are retained as valid species. The number of species of *Nysius* from Australia and territories is now reduced to five. A key is provided to the nine species of *Nysius* now recognised from Australia and SW Pacific.