



## The genus *Pseudolycoriella* Menzel & Mohrig (Diptera, Sciaridae) in New Caledonia, with the description of thirteen new species

PEKKA VILKAMAA<sup>1</sup>, HEIKKI HIPPA<sup>2</sup> & WERNER MOHRIG<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Zoological Museum, Finnish Museum of Natural History, P.O. Box 17, FI-00014 University of Helsinki, Finland.

E-mail: pekka.vilkamaa@helsinki.fi

<sup>2</sup>Swedish Museum of Natural History, P.O. Box 50007, SE-104 05 Stockholm, Sweden. E-mail: heikki.hippa@gmail.com

<sup>3</sup>Puddemin 6, D-18574 Poseritz, Germany. E-mail: wmoorig@hotmail.com

### Abstract

The following species of the genus *Pseudolycoriella* Menzel & Mohrig, 1998 are recognized from New Caledonia, all newly described: *Pseudolycoriella acicula* sp. n., *P. bisulca* sp. n., *P. capillosa* sp. n., *P. latiflagellata* sp. n., *P. pallidula* sp. n., *P. senticosa* sp. n., *P. simplex* sp. n., *P. spicata* sp. n., *P. tenuis* sp. n., *P. tribulosa* sp. n., *P. trispicata* sp. n., *P. tumidior* sp. n. and *P. villosa* sp. n. A key to the species is given.

**Key words:** Diptera, Sciaridae, *Pseudolycoriella*, new species, New Caledonia

### Introduction

The Diptera of New Caledonia have been studied extensively since the late 1980's and the results have been published mainly in the seven volumes of *Zoologia Neocaledonica* (Tillier 1988, Chazeau & Tillier 1991, Matile *et al.* 1993, Najt & Matile 1997, Najt & Grandcolas 2002, Grandcolas 2008, 2009). Of the Bibionomorpha, the known New Caledonian fauna include Bibionidae (Fitzgerald 2004) and some groups of Sciaroidea (Matile 1986: Lygistorrhinidae, Matile 1988a: Keroplatidae, Matile 1988b: Ditomyiidae, Mycetophilidae (Mycomyinae, Sciophilinae, and Gnoristinae), Matile 1993: Mycetophilidae (Leiinae and Manotinae). These studies show a high degree of endemism of the New Caledonian dipteran fauna, at least at the species level. However, the level of endemism in New Caledonia is known to vary among insect groups (Cranston 2010). The current knowledge of the insect fauna, especially Diptera, its affinities, possible origin and diversity was recently summarized by Couri *et al.* (2010). This is the second part of an ongoing study of the so far unknown sciarid fauna of New Caledonia in preparation by the present authors, the genus *Keilbachia* Mohrig having been treated earlier (Vilkamaa *et al.* 2011).

The genus *Pseudolycoriella* (type-species *Sciara bruckii* Winnertz, 1867) was described by Menzel and Mohrig (1998) and later (Menzel & Mohrig 2000) divided into three species groups. The genus is species-rich, a number of species being known from the Palaearctic, Afrotropical, Oriental, Neotropical and Australasian regions (e.g. Menzel & Mohrig 1998, 2000, Mohrig & Jaschhof 1999, Mohrig 2003, Rudzinski 2003, Mohrig *et al.* 2004, Menzel & Smith 2009). In the Australasian and Oceanian regions, five species are known from New Zealand (Mohrig & Jaschhof 1999), one from Hawaii (Hardy 1960) and two from Micronesia (Steffan 1969; see Mohrig & Jaschhof, 1999; in addition, *Corynoptera sabroskyi* Steffan, 1969 from Micronesia may actually belong to *Pseudolycoriella*). A number of undescribed species of *Pseudolycoriella* have been found in materials from different parts of the world (Menzel & Mohrig 1998, 2000) and are also found in unpublished materials studied by the present authors. *Eugnoriste* Coquillett, 1896, known from the Nearctic, Neotropical and Afrotropical regions, as noted by Mohrig (2003), clearly is closely related to and may even be congeneric with *Pseudolycoriella*. The phylogenetic relationships between *Eugnoriste* and *Pseudolycoriella*, with possible nomenclatorial consequences, are currently being studied by the present authors (Hippa, Mohrig & Vilkamaa, in preparation).

Here we describe 13 new species of *Pseudolycoriella* from New Caledonia. All species belong to the *P. bruckii* group in the sense of Menzel and Mohrig (2000).