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A review of the genera of Australian cicadas (Hemiptera: Cicadoidea)

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ABSTRACT

The identities of all 242 described Australian Cicadoidea species (and their synonyms) have been confirmed, mostly by examination of types, and their generic status reviewed. Male genitalia of all but two Australian species have been examined and those of the type species of each genus are figured. The first key to genera incorporating both males and females is presented along with a brief history of Australian genera. A cladistic analysis incorporating 71 species from the tribe Cicadettini is also presented, the primary purpose of which was to identify generic groupings and their apomorphies.

The following 34 genera are described as new: *Adelia gen. n.*, *Auscalala gen. n.*, *Chelapsalta gen. n.*, *Clinopsalta gen. n.*, *Clinata gen. n.*, *Dipsopsalta gen. n.*, *Erempsalta gen. n.*, *Ewartia gen. n.*, *Galanga gen. n.*, *Gelidea gen. n.*, *Heliopsalta gen. n.*, *Limnopsalta gen. n.*, *Mugadina gen. n.*, *Myopsalta gen. n.*, *Nanopsalta gen. n.*, *Neopunia gen. n.*, *Noongara gen. n.*, *Palapsalta gen. n.*, *Paradina gen. n.*, *Parnquila gen. n.*, *Physeema gen. n.*, *Pictila gen. n.*, *Platypsalta gen. n.*, *Plerapsalta gen. n.*, *Punia gen. n.*, *Pyropsalta gen. n.*, *Simona gen. n.*, *Sylphoides gen. n.*, *Taurella gen. n.*, *Telmapsalta gen. n.*, *Terepsalta gen. n.*, *Toxala gen. n.*, *Uradolichos gen. n.*, *Yoyetta gen. n.*

Three genera, *Cicadetta* Kolenati, *Notopsalta* Dugdale, and *Quintilia* Stål, are removed from the fauna of Australia. Twelve species names are placed into junior synonymy and 74 new combinations are established. As a consequence of this review all 81 genera currently recognised as occurring in Australia are redefined using a common suite of characters identified as meaningful at generic level. To these have been added a further 35 characters when describing genera in the tribe Cicadettini in order to differentiate a large number of closely allied genera.

Key words: Burbungini, Chlorocystini, Cicadettinae, cicada, Cicadettini, Cicadidae, Cicadinae, Cicadini, Cryptotympanini, Cyclochilini, Jassopsaltriini, Key to cicada genera of Australia, Key to cicada tribes of Australia, Prasiini, Platyleurini, Talcopsaltriini, Tamasini, Taphurini, Tettigarctidae, Thophini, wax secretion

INTRODUCTION

In an earlier work (Moulds 1990) I reviewed the Australian cicada fauna as then known. While preparing that text it became evident that generic definitions as a whole were inadequate and many species did not fit comfortably within the genera in which they were placed. In particular, many species included within *Cicadetta*, *Pauropsalta* and *Urabunana* (together encompassing nearly half the described Australian fauna at that time) showed obvious incompatibilities. Further, the identities of many described Australian species remained uncertain. These impediments have hindered the construction of a satisfactory key to the Australian genera. The most recent key available is that of Distant (1906d) but it is now outdated and largely unworkable for the Australian fauna.

The primary aim of this study has been to provide a generic overview for the described Australian species. The task of describing the plethora of new Australian species (and any new genera that they may require) is not addressed.

The generic descriptions provided here are intrinsically linked to the cladistic analysis of cicada family groups (Moulds 2005a). The data set of character attributes upon which that cladistic study was based has provided a basis for selecting characters meaningful at generic level for this generic review. Some additional characters uninformative as cladistic attributes but otherwise obvious features, i.e. the distribution of wing infuscations, colour, and the width of the head in relation to the thorax (the last a traditional character featuring often in generic and tribal descriptions) have been added to the descriptions to help characterize genera. Also, autapomorphies have been added. The descriptions treat characters in the same order, thus permitting direct comparisons between genera. Distinguishing features that characterize each genus are summarised after generic diagnoses.

Since the publication of the phylogenetic analysis of Australian genera by Moulds (2005a), six new genera from the tribe Cicadettini have been described (Ewart 2005a, Ewart & Marques 2008, Popple & Emery 2010), plus a new genus in a new monotypic tribe (Moulds 2008b). I now add a further 34 genera, the majority of which fall within the tribe Cicadettini. Many of these are represented by their type species in the phylogeny of Moulds (2005a).

A total of 81 Australian genera are now recognised, including the 34 described here as new. *Cicadetta* Kolenati, *Notopsalta* Dugdale, and *Quintilia* Stål are no longer considered to be represented in Australia. These generic changes have resulted in 74 new combinations and 12 species names falling as junior synonyms.

All generic descriptions are accompanied by figures of male genitalia (in most cases of the type species). For some genera additional figures included are wing venation, male opercula, head and body forms, and male and