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Grandaustralis, a new genus and *Grandaustralis boomerang*, a new species of Cetoniinae (Coleoptera: Scarabaeidae) from Western Australia

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Abstract

Grandaustralis new genus and *Grandaustralis boomerang* new species are described from Western Australia. *Grandaustralis* is placed in the tribe Schizorhinini (Coleoptera: Scarabaeidae: Cetoniinae).

Key words: Flower chafer

Walk into any patch of our [Australian] bushland and two-thirds of the organisms you see will not have been formally recognised by science. —Cameron Slatyer, Director of the Australian Biological Resources Study at the 2007 Australian National Taxonomy Forum.

Introduction

In Australia the Cetoniinae (excluding Valgini, in the sense of Browne and Scholtz (1998)), are represented with approximately 126 species (Calder 2002; Krajcik 1998, 1999). This paper describes a genus and species from Western Australia, which has been known for 76 years but has eluded description until now. A single specimen was collected in 1936 and remained unrecognized in the collection of the Department of Agriculture and Food Western Australia in Perth, Western Australia amongst specimens representing several taxa. The species was illustrated by Golding (2009).

Grandaustralis boomerang belongs to a group of Australian Schizorhinini in which the structure and behavior of males and females is distinctly different. Males of *G boomerang* have bright dorsal coloration, are active and visible flyers and can be locally abundant. The only two known females are entirely black and were found walking on the ground.

Methods

Specimen length was measured from the apex of the frons to the posterior margin of the abdomen; width was measured at the widest point of the elytra. Morphological terminology follows Krikken (1984) and Holm & Marais (1992). Images of type specimens were taken with a Canon EOS 5D and Canon 100 mm macro lens. Focus stacking was performed with Helicon Focus version 4.48. Images of antennal structures, coated with a 15 nm thick layer of platinum, were taken with JEOL 6460 and JEOL JSM-7001F scanning electron microscopes at 10 kV.

Abbreviations: D.K.—Denis R. Kitchin, Gracemere, Queensland, Australia; J.H.—Jack W. Hasenpusch, Innisfail, Queensland, Australia; Qld—Queensland; W.A.—Western Australia; f—female; m—male.