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Revision of the checkered beetle genus *Eunatalis* Schenkling, 1909 (Coleoptera: Cleridae: Clerinae)

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Abstract

The genus *Eunatalis* Schenkling, 1909 is taxonomically revised to include twenty-two species. The following species are described as new: *Eunatalis auricoma*, *Eunatalis flavopilosa*, *Eunatalis foveata*, *Eunatalis ninae*, *Eunatalis pernodulosa*, *Eunatalis punctata*, *Eunatalis schopfi*, *Eunatalis spadicea* and *Eunatalis villosa*. *Eunatalis blackburni* (Waterhouse, 1894), n. syn. is placed in synonymy with *Eunatalis lugubris* (Blackburn, 1890), *Eunatalis longicollis* (Blackburn, 1890), n. syn. is placed in synonymy with *Eunatalis hirta* (Blackburn, 1890); *Eunatalis lata* (Waterhouse, 1894), n. syn. and *Eunatalis alternicostata* (Kuwert, 1893), n. syn. are synonymized with *Eunatalis semicostata* (Blackburn, 1888). A key to the species, color photographs, genital figures and distribution maps are provided.

Key words: Australian species, taxonomy, identification key, genital figures, distribution maps

Introduction

In recent times the higher classification of Cleridae has undergone considerable categorial oscillations (Opitz 2002a) and there is a “general morphological imbalance in the delimitation of genera and the lack of a credible suprageneric classification” (Opitz 2010). Clerinae, the most species-rich clerid subfamily, constitutes approximately 46% of all species in the family Cleridae, it includes 107 genera and 1711 species (Gerstmeier, in press).

Little attention has been focused on the Australian clerid fauna since Corporaal’s world catalogue (Corporaal 1950) except Winkler (1972, 1989), Gerstmeier (1990a, 1990b, 1991, 2001, 2002), Matthews (1992), Opitz (2002b), Kolibáč (2003) and Bartlett (2009a–2009d, 2010).

The first species of the genus *Eunatalis* Schenkling, 1909, described as *Notoxus porcata* by Fabricius in 1787, was transferred to the genus *Natalis* Laporte, 1836 by Spinola (1844). For a long time there was no generic differentiation between the South American and the Australian species until Schenkling (1909) erected *Eunatalis*