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## **Australian Marsh Beetles (Coleoptera: Scirtidae) 4. Two new genera, *Austrocyphon* and *Tasmanocyphon***

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## Abstract

The related new genera *Austrocyphon* and *Tasmanocyphon* are erected for 42 small Australian marsh beetles resembling members of the genus *Cyphon* Paykull in habitus. They are distinguished from *Cyphon*. Only males are known of most species but for two of them larvae and pupae are also available. *Austrocyphon* species occur in all Australian Federal States, and one species is Australasian and shared with Papua New Guinea.

The following species are included: *Austrocyphon acaciae* sp. n., *A. aculeatus* sp. n., *A. acustropicus* sp. n., *A. adelaidae* (Blackburn), *A. asper* sp. n., *A. bidens* sp. n., *A. bifidus* sp. n., *A. charon* sp. n., *A. crinitus* (Klausnitzer), *A. curvispina*, sp. n., *A. deserticola* sp. n., *A. doctus* (Lea), *A. enigmaticus* sp. n., *A. excisus* sp. n., *A. fenestratus* (Blackburn), *A. flagellifer* sp. n., *A. furcatus* sp. n., *A. hamatus* sp. n., *A. harpago* sp. n., *A. leptophallus* sp. n., *A. linguatus* sp. n., *A. lobatus* sp. n., *A. neptunus* sp. n., *A. noctua* sp. n., *A. ovensensis* (Blackburn), *A. papilio* sp. n., *A. perdoctus* sp. n., *A. pictus* (Blackburn), *A. quadridens* sp. n., *A. quinquespinosus* sp. n., *A. robustus* sp. n., *A. setifer* sp. n., *A. spiculifer* sp. n., *A. stylatus* sp. n., *A. stylifer* sp. n., *A. submersus* sp. n., *A. tineae* sp. n., *A. tomweiri* sp. n., *A. tribulator* sp. n., *A. tropicus* sp. n., *A. unguiculatus* sp. n., *A. watsi* sp. n.

*Tasmanocyphon* is endemic to Tasmania, and only the adult male is known. The genus is monotypic, including only *T. heideae*, sp. n.

**Key words:** taxonomy, redescriptions, new genera, new species, keys, endemism, Australasian distribution

## INTRODUCTION

The family Scirtidae, or marsh beetles, occurs on all continents except Antarctica. For many years, the Australian fauna received little attention. Recent studies (Watts 2004, 2007, 2009, 2010a, b, 2011; Zwick 2012, 2013a, b) showed it to be diverse and to include many more genera and species than the few named by earlier authors.

Many small to very small (*ca.* 4 to less than 1 mm) Australian species more or less resemble the genus *Cyphon* in habitus and stand under this name in collections. However, true *Cyphon* species are exceptional in Australia (Zwick 2013b), and most Australian species currently placed in that genus belong to different genera. Descriptions of Australian species of *Ypsilocyphon* Klausnitzer, *Calvarium* Pic, and new genera are in preparation.

The present study deals with a group distinguished by the derived build of the male genitalia. The new genus *Austrocyphon* includes 40 species endemic to Australia plus one shared with Papua New Guinea. The new monotypic genus *Tasmanocyphon* is endemic to Tasmania. Only an alpha-taxonomic study of the presently known species is presented, to make them accessible for future work. A complete revision as well as ecological studies remain tasks for the future. Doubtlessly, many more species remain to be discovered.

Habitus descriptions are kept short because examination of male genitalia is required to recognize species. Habitus, antennal segment length ratios, punctuation of dorsal body surface, and pigmentation provide at best auxiliary characters. However, past studies were limited to these character systems. Therefore, identifications by earlier students (for example, A.M. Lea, H.J. Carter, and most frequently J. Armstrong) are often incorrect. For example, five males identified as *C. fenestratus* by J. Armstrong in fact belonged to three different species: *Austrocyphon fenestratus* (Blackburn), *A. doctus* (Lea), and *A. setifer*, sp. n.

J. Armstrong was an amateur entomologist who apparently intended to sort out the small *Cyphon*-like taxa and designated numerous type specimens of new species that he believed to have recognized. His series of intended