

<http://dx.doi.org/10.111646/zootaxa.3957.3.3>
<http://zoobank.org/urn:lsid:zoobank.org:pub:291059B4-3E95-4C6A-9176-B37F1D9D3485>

Two new high altitude genera of Camiarini (Coleoptera: Leiodidae: Camiarinae) from Australia and New Zealand

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Abstract

Two new leiodid genera and species, *Camisolus ptinoides* gen. nov., sp. nov. and *Camiarodes nunni* gen. nov., sp. nov. are described from southeastern Australia and New Zealand, respectively. Each new species is placed within its own genus on the basis of morphological uniqueness within Camiarini (Camiarinae) based on the presence of an enlarged maxillary palpomere 4 and metanepisternum with a lateral, tongue-like process that overlaps the elytron in repose. A key to the described genera is provided for world Camiarini. The tribe, new to Australia, is otherwise known only from New Zealand (six genera including one new) and southern South America (one genus). Both new genera are found exclusively in high altitude areas.

Key words: Staphylinoidea, Leiodidae, Camiarinae, Camiarini, Australia, New Zealand

Introduction

The leiodid tribe Camiarini (*sensu* Newton 1998) includes those genera placed in Jeannel's (1958) family Camiaridae; the only characters shared by all members of this tribe are the presence of broadly expanded apical maxillary palpomeres and a metanepisternal "clamp" which overlaps the elytral margin in repose. Species of Camiarini have hitherto only been described from New Zealand (*Baeosilpha* Broun, *Camiarites* Jeannel, *Camiarus* Sharp, *Inocatops* Broun, *Zenocolon* Broun) and Chile (*Neocamiarus* Jeannel). These genera can be roughly divided into two groups, defined as follows by Newton (1985): the *Inocatops* group (*Inocatops*; *Neocamiarus*), with a transverse mesepimeron, oblique metaventral-pleural suture, a functional 8th abdominal spiracle, and a bisetose empodium, and the *Camiarus* group (all remaining genera), with thoracic ventrites not as above, an atrophied 8th (or lost) spiracle, and a unisetose empodium. Both groups include genera with a long-legged, scydmaenid-like habitus (*Camiarus*, *Camiarites*, *Inocatops*) as well as genera with a smaller, compact, ovoid to subquadrate habitus (*Neocamiarus*, *Baeosilpha*, *Zenocolon*). Members of the *Camiarus* group may be pubescent (*Camiarus*, *Inocatops*) or glabrous (*Camiarites*), with the scutellary shield firmly attached or fused (*Camiarus*, *Inocatops*) or not fused (*Camiarites*) to the elytra. As such, Camiarini encompasses greater morphological diversity than any other tribe of leiodids. This morphological disparity also makes it difficult not only to infer relationships between camiarine genera, but also to place Camiarini within the evolutionary context of the family Leiodidae. The austral disjunct distribution of this tribe mirrors that of Agyrtodini and Neopelatopini, the other two tribes currently placed in Camiarinae, though neopelatopines and camiarines are absent from South Africa.

The presence of undescribed New Zealand species of Camiarini was noted by Newton (1985), and one of these has subsequently been included in the New Zealand Threatened List (Leschen *et al.* 2012) and requires description. Newton (1998) later noted the discovery of an undescribed Australian species which represents a dramatic expansion of the known distribution of Camiarini, being the only member of the tribe found outside New Zealand or Chile and southern Argentina. Here we formally describe these two taxa as new genera and species, provide a