



New species of *Nanexila* Winterton & Irwin and *Taenogera* Kröber from Australia (Diptera: Therevidae)

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Abstract

Two new species are described in each of the closely related genera *Nanexila* Winterton & Irwin and *Taenogera* Kröber. *Nanexila atricauda* **sp. nov.** and *Nanexila jimrodmani* **sp. nov.** are described. The phylogenetic placement and diagnostic characteristics of these new species and other species recently transferred *Nanexila* are discussed. *Taenogera luteola* **sp. nov.** and *Taenogera brunnea* **sp. nov.** are distinctive species described from female specimens collected in Queensland. *Taenogera* is diagnosed in light of these new species and a revised key to species presented.

Key words: Stiletto fly, Asiloidea

Introduction

The *Taenogera* genus-group (Diptera: Therevidae) comprise at least 13 described genera distributed throughout Australia and parts of South America. This group of genera is recognisable from other therevids by an open wing cell m_3 , femoral vestiture sparse and of only a single type, inner gonocoxal process present and female reproductive system with three spermathecae joining directly to the spermathecal sac duct (Winterton *et al.* 1999a–c, Winterton *et al.* 2001). Evidence from previous analyses indicate that the *Taenogera* genus-group are paraphyletic (Winterton *et al.* 1999b, 2001, Yang *et al.* 1999) and inclusion of these genera in the subfamily Agapophytinae is supported by at least the last aforementioned character as a synapomorphy shared by both members of Agapophytinae and the *Taenogera* genus-group (Winterton 2006).

Nanexila Winterton & Irwin contains 23 species divided into three species groups (*N. manni* (Hardy), *N. palassa* Winterton & Irwin and *N. atricostalis* Winterton & Irwin species-groups) (Winterton *et al.* 1999a). Winterton *et al.* (1999a) originally included 20 species in the genus, with three more species being subsequently transferred to *Nanexila* by Winterton *et al.* (1999b) and Metz *et al.* (2003). The genus is endemic to Australia, and is particularly species rich in the southern part of the continent (Winterton 1999a). Diagnostic characters for *Nanexila* include velutum patches on the fore and hind femora absent, wing open, antennae usually shorter than head, frons flat, subapical setae on hind femur present, and three spermathecae joined to the spermathecal duct. Two new species of *Nanexila*, *N. atricauda* **sp. nov.** and *N. jimrodmani* **sp. nov.**, are described and figured herein from Australia. Notes are given on taxonomic and diagnostic characteristics of therevid species recently transferred *Nanexila* from other genera.

Kröber (1912a) erected *Taenogera* as a monotypic genus for *Taenogera longa* Kröber, into which Mann (1928) transferred *Anabarhynchus nitidus* Macquart, *Ectinorhynchus superbus* Schiner and *Xylophagus latistria* Walker, although *T. longa* Kröber was found to be a junior synonym of *A. nitidus*. In their catalogue of Australasian and Oceanian Therevidae, Irwin & Lyneborg (1989) transferred *E. superbus* and *T. latistria* to