



***Leptopezella*, a new Southern Hemisphere genus of Ocydromiinae (Diptera: Empidoidea: Hybotidae)**

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Abstract

Leptopezella, **gen. nov.** is described to include one new species from Bolivia (*L. masneri*) and three new species from Australia (*L. anatolica*, *L. perata*, *L. spinosa*).

Key words: *Leptopezella*, Hybotidae, Diptera, Bolivia, Australia, taxonomy

Introduction

The genera of Ocydromiinae (*sensu* Sinclair & Cumming 2006) of the Southern Hemisphere were keyed by Sinclair & Cumming (2000). In their key, two genera remained unnamed and undescribed. “Undescribed genus B” was subsequently named *Chvalaea* and described by Papp & Földvári (2001). In the present study “undescribed genus A”, characterized by the absence of cell dm and presence of stout ventral spine-like setae on the hind first tarsomere, is described along with four new species from Australia and South America. A number of additional undescribed species remain, primarily from Australia, and these will be the focus of a future study that will examine the phylogeny of the genus and provide a key to species. This new genus can be identified using the keys to the ocydromiine genera (as undescribed genus A) and major empidoid groupings in Sinclair & Cumming (2000).

In addition to validating the name *Leptopezella*, which unintentionally appeared as a *nomen nudum* in Sinclair & Cumming (2006) (see below), several other corrections found in that paper are reported in the Appendix.

Material and methods

This study is based on material borrowed from or deposited in the following institutions: Australian Museum, Sydney, Australia (AMS); Canadian National Collection of Insects, Ottawa, Canada (CNC); United States National Museum of Natural History, Washington, DC, USA (USNM); Western Australian Museum, Perth, Australia (WAM); Zoologisches Forschungsmuseum Alexander Koenig, Bonn, Germany (ZFMK).

All dissections were made in glycerine and tissues cleared using hot 85% lactic acid. Terms used for adult structures primarily follow those of McAlpine (1981), except for the antenna and the wing venation where the terms of Stuckenberg (1999) and Saigusa (2006) are used, respectively. Homologies of the male terminalia