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Comparative morphology of larval Camiarinae (Coleoptera: Leiodidae) Part I. Genus *Paragyrtodes* Szymczakowski 1966

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Abstract

The first, second and third larval instars of the Australian genus *Paragyrtodes* Szymczakowski, 1966 are described. Among three described species, larvae of two, *P. candens* Szymczakowski, 1966 and *P. modestus* Szymczakowski, 1966, are redescribed in detail, illustrated, photographed and measured. The chaetotaxy and porotaxy are given and their system is discussed. Morphological and chaetotaxic characters distinguishing mature larvae of two species of *Paragyrtodes* are provided; differences among mature larvae of the genera *Agyrtodes* Portevin, 1907 and *Paragyrtodes* are summarized. Pretergal glands, their glandular function, and tergal pores are documented in the family Leiodidae for the the first time. The problem of the identity of the larval glands in the family Leiodidae and superfamily Staphylinoidea is discussed. Data on presence, number and arrangement of the tergal and pretergal glands for all known larvae of Leiodidae and some representatives of Staphylinidae and Hydraenidae are gathered.

Key words: Morphology, chaetotaxy, pretergal glands, tergal glands, larva, Coleoptera, Leiodidae, Camiarinae, Agyrtodini, *Paragyrtodes candens*, *Paragyrtodes modestus*, Australia

Introduction

The leiodid subfamily Camiarinae *sensu* Newton 1998 comprises three tribes: Neopelatopini, Camiarini and Agyrtodini. This subfamily is interesting at least for three reasons: 1) its probable Gondwanian origin; 2) its uncertain systematic placement (the group is paraphyletic, defined only by plesiomorphies and needs phylogenetic studies of the included species and genera) (Newton 1998); 3) the larvae of Camiarinae are poorly known and may yield useful insights into the systematics of Leiodidae.

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