



A new species of the genus *Lepidocyrtoides* (Collembola: Entomobryidae) from Australia

LI LIU¹, JIAN-XIU CHEN^{1,3} & PENELOPE GREENSLADE²

¹School of Life Science, Nanjing University, Nanjing 210093, P. R. China.

E-mail: liulidnxdn@163.com

²School of Botany and Zoology, Australian National University, Australian Capital Territory 0200, Australia.

E-mail: penny.greenslade@anu.edu.au

³Corresponding author, E-mail: chenjx@nju.edu.cn

Abstract

Lepidocyrtoides oliveri, a new Australian species, is described in the present paper. It can be diagnosed by the presence of 2–4 supplementary setae on labial triangular area and 3+3 dorsal macrochaetae on Abd. I. The supplementary setae on labial triangular area are always absent in eleven members of the genus and unknown in other three species. The dorsal macrochaetae on Abd. I are absent in nine members of the genus and unknown in 5 species. A new taxonomically useful character, bothriotrichial complex, is introduced into the taxonomy of the genus. A species list and a key to Australia species of the genus are provided.

Key words: Collembola, *Lepidocyrtoides oliveri* sp. nov., checklist, key to species, Australia

Introduction

Schött (1917) established *Lepidocyrtoides* as a subgenus of *Lepidocyrtus* for eight new species he described from Australia and New Guinea. They were *L. (L.) longicornis*, *L. (L.) cucullaris*, *L. (L.) flavocinctus*, *L. (L.) sagmarius*, *L. (L.) coeruleus*, *L. (L.) cinctus*, *L. (L.) angulatus* and *L. (L.) spinosus*. He defined the subgenus as consisting of tropical forms with a distinctly overlapping mesonotum, long antennae, retractile knob on Ant. IV and clearly striate scales of various shapes. However, he also placed five species without a distinctly overlapping mesonotum in the subgenus. They were *L. (L.) sagmarius*, *L. (L.) coeruleus*, *L. (L.) cinctus*, *L. (L.) angulatus* and *L. (L.) spinosus*. Handschin (1925) moved *L. (L.) spinosus* to the genus *Acanthocyrtus* Handschin, 1925. In the same year, Schött designated *L. (L.) cucullaris* as the type species of the subgenus *Lepidocyrtoides* and moved three of the above five species without a projecting mesonotum to the newly erected genus *Lepidosira* Schött, 1925. They were *L. (L.) sagmarius*, *L. (L.) coeruleus* and *L. (L.) cinctus*. Yoshii (1989) described a new subgenus of *Lepidosira*, i.e., *Najtsira*. He proposed a taxonomically useful character, blunt macrochaetae on the manubrial plaque, for *Najtsira* and pointed out its affinity to *Lepidocyrtoides* because of the strongly protruded mesonotum. Yoshii and Suhardjono (1992a) synonymized the subgenus *Najtsira* with *Lepidocyrtoides*. Greenslade (1994) moved *L. angulatus* to the genus *Lepidosira*.

The genus *Lepidocyrtoides* is similar to the genus *Lepidosira* in having 8+8 eyes, 4-segmented antennae, apical bulb on Ant. IV, coarsely striate body scales some of which are apically acuminate and bidentate mucro with basal spine. However, it is distinguished from the latter by its distinctly protruded mesonotum and the presence of blunt macrochaetae on the manubrial plaque.