



Three new species and a new key to the *Diplonevra* Lioy (Diptera: Phoridae) from Australia

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Abstract

Diplonevra collessi **sp. nov.**, *D. fumosa* **sp. nov.** and *D. nigricorpus* **sp. nov.** are described from Australia. A key to the eleven Australian species known in the male sex is provided.

Key words: Diptera, Phoridae, *Diplonevra*, new species, key, Australia

Introduction

The scuttle flies (Diptera, Phoridae) of Australia are poorly documented. The most recent checklist for mainland Australia (Disney, 2008) lists only 88 named species, in 20 genera. A preliminary list for Tasmania reported 52 species in 8 genera (Disney, 2003), of which 10 species are also known from the mainland. By contrast at least 340 species in 23 genera are recorded from the British Isles.

Among specimens collected in Tasmania is a series of a new species of *Diplonevra* Lioy. However, I also have on loan from the Museum Koenig Bonn) two specimens of the same genus from New South Wales. One of these was misidentified by E. M. Beyer. The other is labelled, by Beyer, as a paratype for a species that has never been described. Its holotype has been found in the Australian National Insect Collection. These three species are described below.

Genus *Diplonevra* Lioy

About 80 species are known in this genus. The basic key covering the males of the species of the Australasian Region (Disney, 1990) needs supplementing with subsequently described species (Disney, 1999, 2003). A new key to the males of the Australian species is given below, and best serves to indicate the affinities of the new species. Most females cannot be named in our present state of knowledge.

Diplonevra collessi **sp. nov.**

(Figs 1–2)

This species was misidentified by Beyer as *D. nigroscutellata* (Malloch), who evidently overlooked the anterodorsal bristle on the basal half of the hind tibia. It is named after the collector D. H. Colless.

Male. Frons chestnut brown and about as broad as long, without microtrichia and with 60–70 hairs. The anterolateral bristles slightly higher on frons than the antials, and the pre-ocellars a little further apart than either is from a mediolateral, which is slightly lower on frons. A strong pair of supra-antennal bristles. Postpedicels orange brown and their greatest breadths fractionally greater than their lengths. The orange yellow palps almost as wide as postpedicels but about 1.6 times as long as wide, with five bristles at apex and up to 20 small hairs on the lower face. Labrum not quite half as wide as a postpedicel. Thorax orange. Notopleuron with 4 bristles, but the second is much