

## Article

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### An interesting new species of *Nososticta* Hagen from southern New Guinea (Odonata, Disparoneuridae)

JOHN MICHALSKI<sup>1</sup>, STEPHEN RICHARDS<sup>2</sup> & GUNTHER THEISCHINGER<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>223 Mount Kemble Avenue, Morristown New Jersey 07960, USA. E-mail: huonia@aol.com

<sup>2</sup>Vertebrates Department, South Australian Museum, North Terrace, Adelaide, S. A. 5000 Australia.

E-mail: steve.richards@samuseum.sa.gov.au

Current address: Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, P.O. Box 4646, Darwin, NT 0801, Australia

<sup>3</sup>Water Science, Office of Environment and Heritage, NSW Department of Premier and Cabinet, PO box 29, Lidcombe NSW 1825 Australia. E-mail: Gunther.Theischinger@environment.nsw.gov.au

#### Abstract

*Nososticta acuminata*, a new disparoneurid damselfly from the Lakekamu Basin in Gulf Province of Papua New Guinea, is described. It is most similar to *N. smilodon* Theischinger & Richards, but the male has uniquely pointed superior anal appendages.

**Key words:** Odonata, damselfly, Disparoneuridae, *Nososticta*, New Guinea, new species

#### Introduction

A survey of Odonata in the Lakekamu Basin of Gulf Province, southern Papua New Guinea (Richards *et al.* 1998), revealed a number of taxonomic novelties in the disparoneurid genus *Nososticta* (e.g. Theischinger and Richards 2006a,b). Among the material obtained were several males and a female of an unusual, previously unrecorded species of *Nososticta* with distinctively pointed cerci. These specimens are described as a new species below.

#### Material and methods

The descriptive terminology largely follows Chao (1953) and Watson & O'Farrell (1991). Coloration is given as detectable from the preserved material. Measurements are given in millimetres (mm). All illustrations were prepared with the aid of a camera lucida and are not to scale.

Material is deposited in the collection of Museum Naturalis (RMNH) in Leiden, The Netherlands, and in the Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory (NTM), Australia.

#### Systematics

##### *Nososticta acuminata* sp. nov.

(Figs 1–11, 15, 16)

**Material.** Holotype ♂ (NTM I008853): Papua New Guinea, Gulf Province, Lakekamu, 1 km transect near Ivimka Camp (146°29'45"E, 7°44'05"S, approx 120 m asl), 1 Dec. 1996, S.J. Richards (NTM). Paratypes: 1 ♂ (NTM I008854), 22 Nov. 1996; 2 ♂ (NTM I008855–6), 26 Nov. 1996; 1 ♂ (NTM I008857), Nov. 1996; all within 1 km south of Ivimka Camp by S.J. Richards.