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***Collessiama* (Diptera: Therevidae: Agapophytinae: *Taenogera* genus-group), a new genus from eastern Australia, with a key to the Australian genera of Therevidae**

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Abstract

The stiletto fly family Therevidae is diverse and species rich in Australasia, with numerous undescribed species. Ongoing studies of *Ectinorhynchus* Macquart, 1850 from the *Taenogera* genus-group indicate that the genus *Evansomyia* Mann, 1928 **stat. rev.** is valid and is raised from synonymy for three species: *Evansomyia phyciformis* (White, 1915) **stat. rev.**, *Evansomyia scutellus* (Mann, 1933) **comb. nov.**, and *Evansomyia venusta* (Erichson, 1842) **comb. nov.**. Two new species of an unusual new therevid genus, *Collessiama* Lambkin **gen. nov.**, are described from females and rare males collected in montane localities in eastern Australia. The dichotomous key to Australian therevid genera is updated to include *Evansomyia* and *Collessiama*, and a key to species of *Collessiama* is provided. *Collessiama narelleae* Lambkin **sp. nov.** and *Collessiama damani* Lambkin **sp. nov.** are illustrated with drawings and high-resolution photographs of adult males and females, and genitalia. Detailed locality records are given for each species and distribution maps are provided.

Key words: *Ectinorhynchus* Macquart, *Evansomyia* Mann, morphology, genitalia, key, distribution

Introduction

Therevidae (stiletto flies) are cosmopolitan, containing over 1,200 described species of moderate to small size, often with patterned wings and silvery markings on the body. Adult therevids frequent a wide variety of habitats, often in rather xeric environments, and some genera are found feeding at flowers. The larvae are smooth, white, secondarily segmented, and worm-like with a well-developed head (Woodley, 1989), found close to the surface of sandy soil, and are voracious predators (English, 1950).

Australia has the world's richest therevid fauna and the genera show an extraordinary degree of endemism. Of the 26 described Australasian genera, 25 are found only in this region with *Irwiniella* Lyneborg, 1976 found in Indonesia, Papua New Guinea, Asia, and Africa. Currently the 375 described Australasian species are placed in two subfamilies, Agapophytinae (209 spp. in 23 gen.) and Therevinae (166 spp. in 3 gen.) (Winterton & Lambkin, 2012). Furthermore, numerous new species and several genera in collections are awaiting description, with the total number of Australasian therevid species expected to double when fully documented.

At least 13 of the described genera in Agapophytinae were placed in the *Taenogera* genus-group (Winterton *et al.*, 1999b), found throughout Australasia and parts of South America. This genus-group was distinguished from other therevids by an open wing cell m_3 , sparse femoral vestiture with only a single type of seta (i.e. adpressed or scale-like setae and elongate velutum (velvet pubescence) patches lacking), males with the inner gonocoxal process, and the female reproductive system with three spermathecae and a spermathecal sac (Winterton *et al.*, 1999a, b, c; 2001). Australian *Taenogera* genus-group genera have been considered to include *Actenomeros* Winterton & Irwin, 1999b, *Ectinorhynchus* Macquart, 1850, *Eupsilocephala* Kröber, 1912, *Johnmannia* Irwin & Lyneborg, 1989, *Manestella* Metz, 2003, *Nanexila* Winterton & Irwin, 1999a, *Neodialineura* Mann, 1928, *Squamopygia* Kröber, 1928, *Taenogera* Kröber, 1912 and *Taenogerella* Winterton & Irwin, 1999b (Metz *et al.*,