



<http://dx.doi.org/10.11646/zootaxa.3774.6.8>

<http://zoobank.org/urn:lsid:zoobank.org:pub:912CBFD7-ACB7-4A50-990F-83DFC8963BBA>

***Megadrymus brigalow* n.sp. (Insecta: Hemiptera: Heteroptera:
Rhyparochromidae: Drymini), a diminutive new species of seed
bug from semi-evergreen vine thicket of the Queensland Brigalow Belt**

GERASIMOS CASSIS¹ & CELIA L. SYMONDS

School of Biological, Earth and Environmental Sciences, University of New South Wales, Sydney 2052 Australia

¹*Corresponding author. E-mail: gcassis@unsw.edu.au*

Abstract

Megadrymus brigalow n. sp., a new species of seed bug, is described from semi-evergreen vine thicket in the Brigalow Belt region of Queensland, Australia. This species has the smallest body in the genus *Megadrymus* Gross and has a number of vestigial characters.

Key words: Hemiptera, Heteroptera, Rhyparochromidae, Drymini, *Megadrymus*, new species, vine thicket, Australia

Introduction

The endemic Australian seed bug genus *Megadrymus* Gross was recently revised (Insecta: Heteroptera: Rhyparochromidae: Drymini), including seven species, five of which were new to science (Cassis & Symonds 2012). The main characters that define *Megadrymus* are: a stepped gula, a weakly concave explanate projection of the lateral margins of the pronotum at the transverse constriction, the first tarsomere of the hind leg elongate, being 2x longer than the combination of remaining tarsomeres, and a swollen ridge on the posterior margin of the pygophore (Cassis & Symonds 2012, see phylogeny discussion). One extra species was known from collections but excluded from *Megadrymus* in the revision based on the lack of some diagnostic characters. However, more extensive examination of Australian Drymini in collections has indicated that this species is congeneric with *Megadrymus*, and is described herein.

Material and methods

This single specimen comes from the Queensland Museum (QM) and has been labelled with unique specimen identifier (USI) code (given as a unique alphanumeric in association with specimen information), and is entered into the Plant Bug Planetary Biodiversity Inventory (PBI) locality database (<https://research.amnh.org/pbi/locality>). The species description follows terminology used in Cassis and Symonds (2012). The collection event data can be viewed on the Discover Life website (www.discoverlife.org). Measurements were made using a digital micrometer mounted on a Leica MZ16 stereo microscope. The habitus photograph was taken using a Visionary Digital microphotography system (www.visionarydigital.com) and distribution map prepared using ArcMap 10 (ESRI 2010). The bioregions mapped and referred to in this work are from the Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation of Australia (IBRA) (Department of the Environment 2012). Antennomeres are abbreviated as AI–AIV.

Thompson (QM) for the loan of specimens; Glenn Johnstone, Environmental Resources Inventory Network, Department of the Environment, for providing the IBRA mapping data and for assistance using these files. Finally, we thank ABRS for funding taxonomic research on seed bugs.

References

- Cassis, G. & Symonds, C. (2012) Systematics and biology of the Australian seed bug genus *Megadrymus* Gross (Insecta: Heteroptera: Rhyparochromidae: Drymini). *Invertebrate Systematics*, 26, 249-273.
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1071/is11050>
- Department of the Environment (2013) Semi-evergreen vine thickets of the Brigalow Belt (North and South) and Nandewar Bioregions in Community and Species Profile and Threats Database, Department of the Environment, Canberra. Available from: <http://www.environment.gov.au/sprat> (accessed 19 December 2013)
- Department of the Environment (2012) Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation for Australia (IBRA), Version 6.1. Available from: <http://www.environment.gov.au/parks/nrs/science/ibra.html> (accessed 12 July 2013)
- ESRI (2009) ArcMap 10.0 ESRI (Environmental Systems Resource Institute), Redlands, California.