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## Nematodes from galls on Myrtaceae. VI. *Fergusobia* from galls on *Angophora* in Australia, with description of *F. colbrani* n. sp. and key

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### Abstract

Collection data and biological information is presented on the *Fergusobia* (Nematoda: Neotylenchidae)/ *Fergusonina* (Diptera: Fergusoninidae) mutualism inducing galls on *Angophora* in Australia. Three species and two morphospecies have been recognised. *Fergusobia colbrani* Davies n. sp. is described from soft spheroid leaf galls on *Angophora floribunda*. It is characterised by a combination of morphological characters including a small C-shaped parthenogenetic female with a short broadly conoid tail, an arcuate infective female with an almost hemispherical tail tip, and an arcuate to barely J-shaped male with an angular spicule having a notched tip and mid-length leptoderan bursa. A key to the species and morphospecies of nematodes collected from *Angophora* is presented. Possible relationships of these organisms are discussed based on evidence from the nematode morphology, gall forms, and the morphology of the dorsal shield of the associated *Fergusonina* fly larvae.

**Key words:** Myrtaceae, galls, Neotylenchidae, *Fergusonina*, Diptera, morphology, morphospecies, collection data, key

### Introduction

Nematodes of the genus *Fergusobia* Currie 1937 (Tylenchida: Neotylenchidae) and flies of the genus *Fergusonina* Malloch 1932 (Diptera: Fergusoninidae) have a mutualistic association (Giblin-Davis *et al.* 2004b, Ye *et al.* 2007) and together form galls on some Myrtaceae (Malloch 1932; Morgan 1933; Currie 1937; Giblin-Davis *et al.* 2004a, b; Taylor *et al.* 2005). It is hypothesized that the *Fergusobia/Fergusonina* mutualism radiated and speciated with the Myrtaceae as they radiated, largely within Australia. Hosts include *Corymbia* Hill & Johnson, 1995 (Currie 1937; Taylor *et al.* 2005), *Eucalyptus* L'Heritier 1788 (Tonnoir 1937), *Syzygium* R. Brown ex Gaertner 1828 (Harris 1982), *Melaleuca* Linnaeus 1767, nom. cons. (Goolsby *et al.* 2000; Taylor 2004; Davies & Giblin-Davis 2004), *Metrosideros* Banks ex Gaertner 1788 (Taylor *et al.* 2007), *Leptospermum* Forster & Forster 1776 (Robin Adair pers. com.; Kerrie Davies unpub. data), and *Angophora* Cavanilles 1797 (Colbran 1964; Taylor *et al.* 2005). Each unique *Fergusobia/Fergusonina* mutualism appears to induce formation of a specific gall form (Davies & Giblin-Davis 2004). It is therefore interesting to compare the gall forms induced by nematode/fly mutualisms thought to be genetically close, on genetically related host plants. The individual locules, in which a fly larva and associated nematodes develops, have lumens lined with hypertrophied cells (Giblin-Davis *et al.* 2004a). The flies and nematodes are thought to feed on these.

Most mature *Fergusonina* fly larvae (third instar) have a characteristic cuticular structure on the dorsum. This varies in form, and may be apparently absent, comprise a few transverse rows of raised spicules, transverse rows of

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