

***Hickmanoxyomma*, a new genus of cavernicolous harvestmen from Tasmania (Opiliones: Triaenonychidae)**

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ABSTRACT. The monotypic genus *Odontonuncia* Hickman, 1958 is redescribed. A new closely related genus, *Hickmanoxyomma*, is described for the type species, *H. cavaticum* (Hickman, 1958), and six other species. Two new combinations are established: *H. cavaticum* (*Monoxyomma*) and *H. tasmanicum* (Roewer, 1915) (*Monacanthobunus*). One new synonymy is proposed: *Monoxyomma silvaticum* Hickman, 1958 = *H. tasmanicum* (Roewer, 1915). Five new species are described in three species groups: *H. goedei*, *H. clarkei* and *H. eberhardi* (*cavaticum* species group); *H. gibbergunyar* (*tasmanicum* species group); and *H. cristatum* (*cristatum* species group). The distribution of the six cavernicolous and one surface species in *Hickmanoxyomma* and the possible influence of Pleistocene glaciation are discussed. Cavernicolous adaptations, including reductions in lateral branches of claws, are described. Free lateral sclerites are recorded for the first time in the Triaenonychidae and their significance as a family character in the superfamily Travunioidea is discussed.

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Species of *Hickmanoxyomma* n.gen. are the most widely distributed cavernicolous harvestmen in Tasmania (Fig. 1). They occur in almost all karst areas where serious biospeleological studies have occurred (Goede, 1967; Hunt, 1972; Eberhard, 1988; Clarke, 1988). This, together with the varying extent of cave adaptation in different species, means that the group has considerable potential for the study of speciation in isolated cave environments.

Material and Methods

Type material of all nominal species has been examined

and reassessed. The following abbreviations are used to indicate the present location of material examined: AM — Australian Museum, Sydney* (*AM usually denoted simply by the registration number prefix KS), FIS — Forschungsinstitut Senckenberg, Frankfurt am Main, JLH — Dr J.L. Hickman collection, Ferntree, Hobart, QVM — Queen Victoria Museum, Launceston, SAM — South Australian Museum, Adelaide, TMAG — Tasmanian Museum & Art Gallery, Hobart.

Official numbers for caves (e.g. PB3) follow Matthews (1985). Terminology follows Hunt (1985). Tergal areas are abbreviated to TA1, TA2, etc.; coxa of leg I is coxa I, etc.