

Generic Positions of Australian Psocoptera Currently Placed in *Paracaecilius* Badonnel and *Enderleinella* Badonnel (Insecta: Psocoptera: Caeciliidae)

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ABSTRACT. *Paracaecilius lemuris* n.sp. is described from New South Wales and the generic position of *P. globiclypeus* (Enderlein) n.comb., *P. hilli* (Smithers) n.comb., *P. zelandicus* (Tillyard) n.comb. and *Enderleinella hylobius* (Smithers) n.comb. discussed.

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The psocopteran family Caeciliidae is worldwide in distribution, with over 200 described species in about 16 genera. There are at present 16 recognisable Australian species placed in seven genera. This paper deals with the Australian species of *Paracaecilius* Badonnel and *Enderleinella* Badonnel. Large populations of species in these genera sometimes occur and they are important elements of arboreal ecosystems. They are found on the foliage of broad leaved plants, especially of rainforest trees, and are mainly yellowish, creamy or white with little in the way of conspicuous or characteristic patterns. As a group they are very similar to one another in general morphology. Some of the taxonomically useful features, such as female genitalia, are very lightly sclerotised, requiring careful dissection and staining if they are to be used reliably for identification. With the current increase in surveys being undertaken in Australian rainforests it is important that taxonomic studies and determination of the generic position of these frequently encountered species be carried out.

Mockford (1965b, 1966, 1969, 1989) has made an important study of the genera of the Caeciliidae, based mainly on American species, which has resulted in recognition of several species groups in the large genus *Caecilius* Curtis. The study is still incomplete and authors have continued to describe species from many parts of the world, including Australia, in *Caecilius*. It is clear that most, if not all, of the Australian species will eventually have to be moved to other genera. When Mockford established the genus *Xanthocaecilius* (Mockford, 1989: 268) for a western hemisphere group he provided information on characters which distinguish it from *Paracaecilius* and *Enderleinella* and hence, incidentally, also gave features which redefined and distinguished these two genera from each other. This provides an opportunity to allocate species to these two very similar genera with greater confidence than was possible before. Broadhead & Richards (1982), when dealing with African species, also provided additional information on morphological details of *Paracaecilius*. Mockford (1989:292) defined subfamilies and tribes