

Some Larval Leptoceridae (Trichoptera) from South-eastern Australia

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ABSTRACT. Leptoceridae larvae belonging to 23 species in twelve genera are described, most for the first time. They are: *Triplexa villa* Mosely, *Condocerus paludosus* Neboiss, *Notoperata maculata* (Mosely), *N. sparsa* (Kimmins), *Symphitoneuria opposita* (Walker), *Lectrides varians* Mosely, *Triplectidina nigricornis* Mosely, *Triplectides similis* Mosely, *T. proximus* Neboiss, *T. elongatus* Banks, *T. varius* Kimmins, *T. truncatus* Neboiss, *T. altenogus* Morse & Neboiss, *T. australicus* Banks, *T. ciuskus* Mosely, *T. australis* Navás, *T. volda* Mosely, *T. magnus* (Walker), *Westriplectes pedderensis* Neboiss, *Leptorussa darlingtoni* (Banks), *Leptocerus sounta* Mosely, *Triaenodes volda* Mosely, and *Oecetis laustra* Mosely. Keys are provided for identification of larvae to generic level and for separation of two species of *Notoperata* and eleven species of *Triplectides*. On the basis of adult, larval and pupal characters, *Triplectides hamatus* Morse & Neboiss is here placed as a junior synonym of *T. truncatus*. Most of the species described here belong to the Triplectidinae which is confined to Australasia, southern Asia, and Central and South America. Comparisons are made with known larvae from these regions. Larval habitats are described.

ST CLAIR, R.M., 1994. Some larval Leptoceridae (Trichoptera) from south-eastern Australia. Records of the Australian Museum 46(2): 171–226.

Despite the very widespread and common occurrence of leptocerids in Australia and the advanced state of taxonomic knowledge of the adults (Neboiss, 1983, 1986), very few larval descriptions are available. As a result, identification of larvae beyond family level is rarely possible. Overseas information is of limited value in identification of the larvae of Australian species as much of it refers only to one subfamily, the Leptocerinae. Indeed, available definitions of the family exclude larvae of many Australian species.

Larval descriptions from previous studies are available for only five species of Australian Leptoceridae:

Lectrides varians and *Leptorussa darlingtoni*, both described fully by Jackson (1985), *Notalina spira*, described as *Oecetis situlus* (Korboot, 1964a), *Triplectides volda* (Korboot, 1964b) and *Triaenodes bernaysae* (Korboot, 1964c). Korboot (1963) also provided notes on the larvae of *Triplectides volda*, *T. australis* and *Symphitoneuria exigua*.

Morse & Neboiss (1982) stated that the species identified by various authors as *Triplectides magnus* from Asia, New Zealand and other locations outside south-eastern Australia is probably some other species, possibly *T. australis*. This presumably applies also to the