

Studies on the Australian stick insect genus *Ctenomorpha* Gray (Phasmida: Phasmatidae: Phasmatinae), with the description of a new large species

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Abstract

The little-known Australian genus *Ctenomorpha* Gray, 1833 is reviewed and an extraordinarily large species from north Queensland *Ctenomorpha gargantua* spec. nov. described. Variability of the type species, *Phasma (Ctenomorpha) marginipennis* Gray, 1833 is discussed and a lectotype designated. Lectotypes are also designated for *Acrophylla aliena* Redtenbacher, 1908, *Acrophylla oxyacantha* Redtenbacher, 1908 and *Acrophylla phyllocerca* Redtenbacher, 1908. Several insects previously listed as *Ctenomorpha* species are treated as follows: *Ctenomorpha acheron* Gray, 1834 is synonymised with *Eurycnema goliath* Gray, 1834, *Ctenomorpha macleayi* Gray, 1835 is synonymised with *Ctenomorphodes briareus* Gray, 1834, *Acrophylla salmactis* Westwood, 1859 is synonymised with *Eurycnema osiris* (Gray, 1834). *Anchiale marmorata* (Redtenbacher, 1908) comb. nov. is transferred from *Ctenomorpha* (originally described in *Acrophylla* Gray, 1835), *Acrophylla aliena* Redtenbacher, 1908 stat. rev. is returned to its original genus, from *Ctenomorpha*, whilst *Phibalosoma caprella* Westwood, 1859 is left as a doubtful Australian species, requiring transfer to another genus in due course. Keys to *Ctenomorpha* species are provided.

Key words: *Ctenomorpha*, *Ctenomorpha gargantua* new species, Queensland, Australia

Introduction

The Australian genus *Ctenomorpha* Gray, 1833 has seldom been mentioned in the literature, although specimens of *C. marginipennis* are common in museum collections and this species is known to have been reared by several enthusiasts in Australia. Gray (1833) described two new Australian species in his new genus *Ctenomorpha*: *Phasma*