Zootaxa 3599 (1): 059–066
www.mapress.com/zootaxa/

Article

ISSN 1175-5326 (print edition)
ZOOTAXA
ISSN 1175-5334 (online edition)

http://zoobank.org/urn:lsid:zoobank.org:pub:8ACB6502-C8FC-42D5-B2ED-EE2F83109B3B

New taxa of Tanyderidae (Diptera) from Eocene Baltic amber

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Abstract

Macrochile hornei **sp. nov.** from Baltic amber (Upper Eocene) is described and illustrated. *Podemacrochile* **gen. nov.** is described with *Podemacrochile baltica* (Podenas, 1997) as type species. A key to the genera and species of Tanyderidae known from Baltic amber is presented.

Key words: new genus, new species, *Podemacrochile* **gen. nov.**, *Macrochile hornei* **sp. nov.,** fossil Diptera

Introduction

Tanyderidae is a small family comprised of 37 extant species (Krzeminski & Judd 1997).

The greatest number of extant Tanyderidae species occur in the Australian Region. The family may have been greater in species richness in the Mesozoic. Fossil taxa have been described by Loew (1850), Bode (1953), Kalugina & Kovalew (1985), Kalugina (1988, 1992), Ansorge (1994), Podenas, (1997), Krzeminski & Ren (2001), Ansorge & Krzeminski (2002), Poinar & Brown (2004), Zhang (2004) and Lukashewich & Krzeminski (2009). The phylogenetic position of Tanyderidae among Diptera is discussed by Krzeminski & Evenhuis (2000), Krzeminski & Krzeminska (2003), Wichard *et al*. (2009) and Bertone *et al*. (2008).

Tanyderids are very rare in Baltic amber, and so far only two species have been described. *Macrochile spectrum* was described by Loew (1850) and later studied by Crampton (1926) and Alexander (1931). Podenas (1997) described a second species in the genus *Macrochile*, but the wing venation and morphology of the hypopygium suggest that it belongs to a new genus that is more similar to *Praemacrochile* Kalugina in Kalugina & Kovalev, 1985 or *Nannotanyderus* Ansorge,1994.

In 2001 the Natural History Museum, London received a large donation of Baltic amber from Mr. Eric Horne. A tanyderid was found in this collection and brought to the attention of the senior author, who recognized it as a new species. In this paper, we describe *Macrochile hornei* **sp. nov.** and *Podemacrochile* **gen. nov.** to include *Podemacrochile baltica* (Podenas, 1997). A key to the genera and species of Tanyderidae known from Baltic amber is also presented.

Material and methods

17 specimens from Baltic amber were examined: 1 specimen from the Berendt collection in the Humboldt Museum, Berlin, Germany; 1 specimen from the Natural History Museum, London; 1 specimen from the

Accepted by G. Curler: 9 Nov. 2012; published: 3 Jan. 2013