



***Lycomimus*, a new genus of Australian Ptilodactylidae (Coleoptera: Byrrhoidea)**

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Abstract

A new genus of Ptilodactylidae, *Lycomimus* gen. n., based on *L. bejsaki* sp. n. from northern New South Wales and southern Queensland, Australia, is described. The genus is compared with other known ptilodactylid genera, and a key is provided to the genera occurring in Australia.

Key words: Ptilodactylidae, Anchyrtarsinae, Australia, *Lycomimus*

Introduction

Australian members of the family Ptilodactylidae are relatively uncommon in collections, although larvae are sometimes taken in numbers from aquatic or riparian habitats. Described Australian ptilodactylids include a few species of *Byrrhopterus* Broun (Lawrence 1987), also known from New Zealand, and the North Queensland *Austrolichas monteithi* Lawrence & Stribling (1992), but undescribed species of *Ptilodactyla* Illiger and *Pherocladus* Fairmaire (Delève 1972), have been seen primarily from North Queensland. More than 20 years ago a specimen of a new ptilodactylid genus and species, with coloration typical of a lycid mimic, were brought to the attention of one of us, and a few other specimens have been discovered subsequently. This new genus and species is described below.

Habitus and wing images were generated with BK Plus Lab System by Visionary Digital (USA); dissected parts were photographed in open glycerol slides using Micropublisher 5 digital camera mounted on a Leica M205C microscope. All images were edited with Adobe Photoshop.

The following abbreviations are used for institutions housing type specimens: ANIC—Australian National Insect Collection, CSIRO Ecosystem Sciences, Canberra, ACT, Australia; QMB—The Queensland Museum, Brisbane, QLD.

***Lycomimus* gen. n.**

Type species: *Lycomimus bejsaki* sp. n.

Diagnosis: This new genus is easily distinguished from members of the subfamily Cladotominae, including the Australian *Austrolichas* Lawrence & Stribling and several exotic genera such as *Cladotoma* Westwood, *Paralichas* White and *Drupeus* Lewis, by the 1) slightly transverse labrum, 2) distinct mandibular mola, 3) relatively broad galea and lacinia densely clothed with short, hooked, spine-like setae, 4) uninflated pronotum with incomplete lateral carinae, 5) unexcavated prosternum and 6) presence of gonostyli. It differs from members of the Ptilodactylinae, including *Ptilodactyla*, *Pherocladus* and a number of New World genera, such as *Chaetodactyla* Champion, *Lachnodactyla* Champion and *Lomechon* Wasmann, by the 1) non-articulated antennal rami in the male, 2) lacinia and galea of about equal width, 3) exposed protrochantins, 4) medial field of the hind wing with 5 free veins and a wedge cell, 5) simple pretarsal claws, 6) sternite IX in the male