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Review and revision of Australian *Germalus* Stål, with new genera and further new species of Australian Geocorinae (Hemiptera: Heteroptera: Geocoridae)

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Abstract

During a review of Australian *Germalus* Stål, types of all species recorded from Australia, as well as of the type species *G. kinbergi* Stål, originally described from Mauritius Island, were examined and illustrated to redefine and redescribe the genus as well as all the included species. As a result of this, the following synonymies have become necessary: *G. humeralis* Distant as junior synonym of *G. victoriae* Bergroth; *G. roseobistriatus* Kirkaldy as junior synonym of *G. lineolosus* Distant. Lectotype females have been designated for *Germalus victoriae* Bergroth, and *Germalus lineolosus* Distant.

The following new taxa have been discovered in the material available for this study: *Germalus australis* Malipatil sp. nov., *Germalus fuscovittatus* Malipatil sp. nov., *Germalus littoralis* Malipatil sp. nov., *Capitostylus kurandae* Malipatil gen. et sp. nov., *Unicageocoris griseus* Malipatil gen. et sp. nov., and *Ausogeocoris westraliensis* Malipatil gen. et sp. nov. Keys to the six genera of Geocorinae, and to the six species of *Germalus*, now recognised in Australia, are provided.

Key words: *Ausogeocoris*; *Capitostylus*; *Unicageocoris*; new taxa; new synonymy; lectotype designations; type specimens; keys; figures; diagnoses; distribution

Introduction

An overview of the subfamily Geocorinae in the family Lygaeidae in Australia was given in Malipatil (1994), together with species-level revisions of the genera *Geocoris* Stål and *Stylogeocoris* Montandon. However, Henry (1997) placed this subfamily in the family Geocoridae redefined to contain other subfamilies: Bledionotinae including Pamphantinae, and Henestarinae *sensu* Henry (1997). All these subfamilies share several features including the reniform eyes usually touching or wrapping around the anterior margin of the pronotum; dorsal spiracles on abdominal segments II–IV; and the nymphs with dorsal abdominal scent gland openings present between segments IV–V and V–VI, these sutures curving strongly caudad from margin to meson.

Within Australia and its territories, five species of *Germalus* Stål are listed in Cassis & Gross (2002): *G. coloratus* Distant, *G. humeralis* Distant, *G. kurandae* Kirkaldy, *G. lineolosus* Distant, and *G. victoriae* Bergroth. While researching a revision of the third genus of Geocorinae, *Germalus*, in Australia, Malipatil (2012) after a detailed study transferred the species *Germalus kurandae* Kirkaldy, described from northern Queensland, to a new genus, *Australocoris*, and to a new subfamily, Australocorinae, placed tentatively in the family Geocoridae, because of the uniquely placed dorsal spiracles on abdominal segments II–VII. Two new species of *Australocoris* Malipatil, 2012 were also described.

The revision of *Germalus* which had been signalled (Malipatil 1994, 2012) is now completed and is herein presented. In the present study an attempt was made to examine the types of these five species of *Germalus* as well as all their junior synonymies listed in Cassis & Gross (2002), to review and confirm their taxonomic identity. To confirm placement of these species in the genus *Germalus* it became necessary to review the definition of the genus based on the examination, particularly of the genitalia, of the type species *Germalus kinbergi* (Stål), originally described from Mauritius Island. As a result, establishment of the following synonymies has become necessary: *G. humeralis* Distant as a junior synonym of *G. victoriae* Bergroth; *G. roseobistriatus* Kirkaldy as a junior synonym of *G. lineolosus* Distant.

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