

ON A COLLECTION OF DERMAPTERA (INSECTA) FROM AUSTRALIA WITH THE DESCRIPTION OF A NEW SPECIES

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INTRODUCTION

This paper is based upon 32 specimens belonging to six species including one species *Idolopsalis jeekeli* described as new to science. All the species are distributed only in Australia except *Elaunon bipartitus* (Kirby) which is also distributed in the Oriental Region and New Guinea and *Forficula auricularia* L in Europe, Western & North Asia, North America, North Africa, Madagascar, Oceania and New Zealand.

I am thankful to the Director, Zoological Survey of India, Kolkata for providing necessary facilities and to Mr. Ben Brugge, Instituut voor taxonomische Zoölogie (Zoölogisch Museum), Amsterdam for placing this interesting collection at my disposal for study.

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Mongolabis tasmanica (Bormans)

Material examined : Australia, Tasmania : Ben Lemond Natn. Park, 23 km ENE Evandale, St. No. 96, 4 males, 3 Females, 6 nymphs, 23.xi.1980; MT Field Natn Park near National Park 10 km from Maydena, St. No. 105-7, Male, 27.xi.1980; New South Wales, Kosciusko Natn. Park 3 km WSW of Perisher Valley, 20 km W Jindabyne, St. No. 70, 1 Male, 5 Females, 1 nymph, 8.xi.1980; 15 km WSW of Jindabyne, St. No. 72, 1 nymph, 9.xi.1980 (C. & A. Jeekel coll).

Distribution : Australia.

IDOLOPSALINAE

Idolopsalis jeekeli sp. n.

Male : General colour blackish brown; lateral and hind margin of pronotum and along the hind margin of tergites reddish brown. Build medium, pilose.

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Head longer than broad, convex, smooth, sutures obsolete, hind margin emarginate in middle. Eyes not prominent, about half as long as the post-ocular area. Antennae partly damaged (six basal segments on the right and 13 on the left side remaining), basal segment stout, a little shorter than the distance between antennal bases; 2nd short, about as long as broad; 3rd long, slender, one & half times longer than broad; 4th shorter than 3rd stouter, slightly longer than broad; 5th a trifle longer than 4th and about as long as the 3rd but stouter, narrowed basally; 6th onwards gradually increasing in length, each narrowed basally, stout, except a few apical ones thinner. Pronotum quadrate, transverse, smooth, all margins straight, lateral margins gently reflexed, widened posteriorly, postero-lateral angles rounded. Mesonotum transverse, smooth, about half as long as the pronotum, hind margin truncate. Metaonotum strongly transverse, smooth, hind margin broadly emarginate. Legs long, slender, hind tarsi compressed, clad with pubescence on under side, 1st segment slightly longer than the combined length of 2nd and 3rd; 2nd short, broader than long; 3rd slender and claw without an arolium. Abdomen gradually enlarging posteriorly, tergites smooth, convex above, lateral folds on 3rd and 4th tergites obsolete, sides of abdominal segments 6th to 9th acute angled posteriorly with an oblique carina. Penultimate sternite triangular, smooth, hind margin in middle obtuse. Ultimate tergite transverse, disc moderately depressed, obscurely punctate, laterally above with a raised convexity, sloping backwards, narrowed posteriorly, hind margin in middle truncate, laterally oblique and emarginate. Pygidium vertical, not visible from above, narrowed posteriorly, hind margin rounded with a faint depression in middle. Forceps with branches remote, broadened at base, gradually tapering apically, almost straight in basal half, afterwards incurved, right one slightly more strongly incurved, trigonal above in a little less than basal half, afterwards depressed, internal margin faintly serrated. Genitalia (fig. 5) with parameres square, about as long as broad, apices projecting, external apical angle prominent; virga indistinct.

Female Agrees with male in most characters except that ultimate tergite strongly narrowed and forceps simple, contiguous and straight.

<i>Measurements</i> (in mm)	Holotype Male	Paratype Female
Length of body	8.9	7.6
Length of forceps	1.5	1.5

Material examined : Holotype Male (Penultimate sternite mounted on a card and genitalia mounted between two coverslips and pinned with the specimen), Paratype Female, Australia : New South Wales, 20 km NNE of Guyra, St. 57, 30.x.1980 (*C. & A Jeekel* coll.); deposited in the Instituut voor Taxonomische Zoölogie (Zoölogisch Museum), Amsterdam, the Netherlands.

Remarks : With Steinmann's (1989) key to the species of the genus, the described species comes close to *I. whymperei* Burr from Ecuador but differs in having the abdominal tergites smooth;

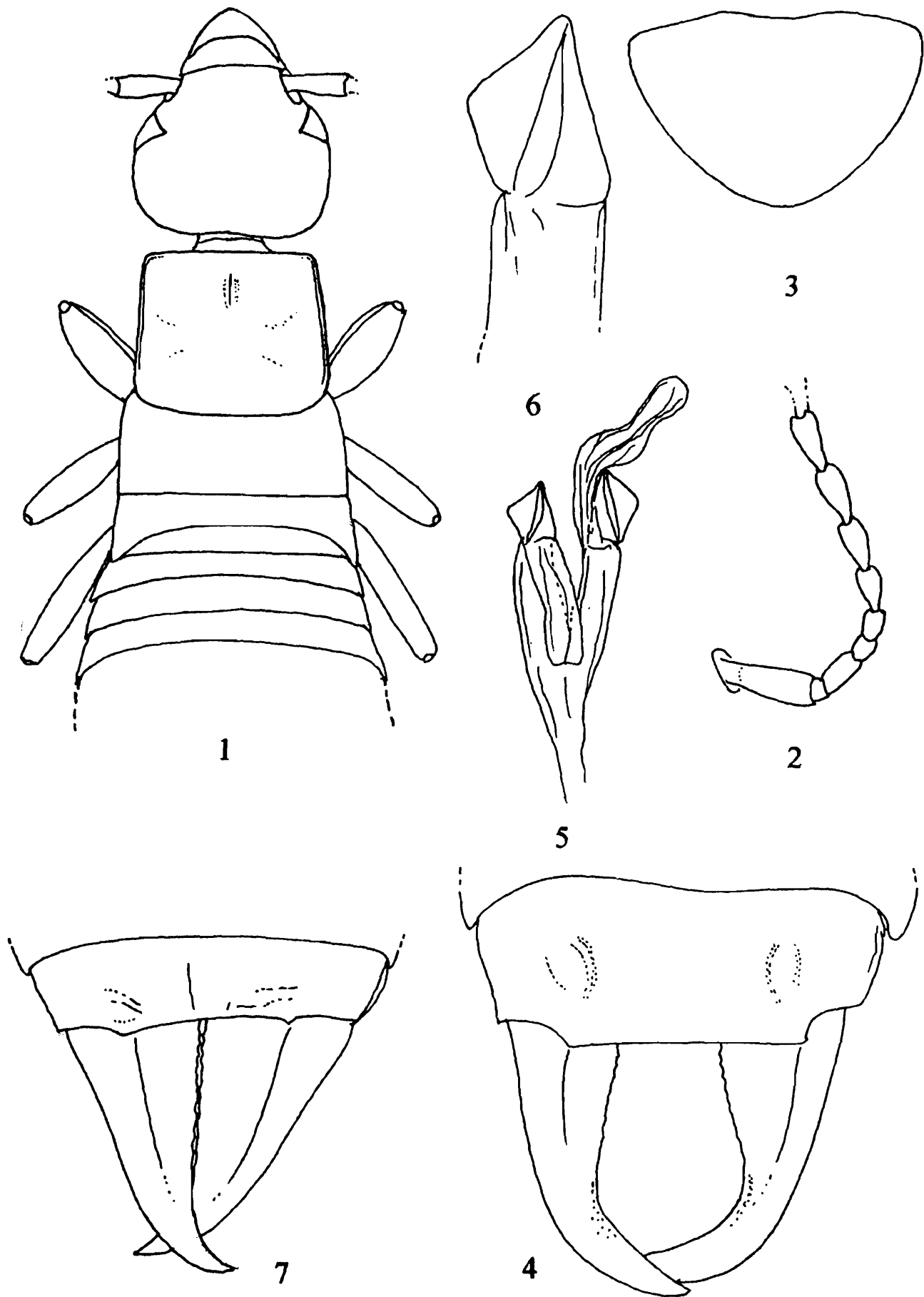


Fig. 1-7 : *Idolopsalis jeekeli* sp.n., Holotype, Male, 1. Anterior portion of body; 2. A few basal antennal segments; 3. Penultimate sternite; 4. Ultimate tergite and forceps; 5. Genitalia; 6. Left Paramere and a portion proparamere, enlarged; Paratype Female, 7. Ultimate tergite and forceps.

in Male, sides of abdominal tergites 6th to 9th with a median carina and genitalia with parameres square and distal lobes without virga.

On the basis of shape of parameres it can be easily separated from all the known species of the genus.

TITANOLABINAE

Titanolabis bormansi Srivastava, 1983

Material examined : Australia : New South Wales, Heaton State, 22 km SE Cessonck, St. 6, 1 Male, genitalia mounted between two coverslips and attached with pin of specimen, 2.xi.1980 (C. & A. Jeekel coll).

Distribution : Australia (New South Wales).

FORFICULOIDEA

FORFICULIDAE

FORFICULINAE

Elaunon bipartitus (Kirby)

Material examined : Australia : Queensland, 5 km S of Redlynch, St. 19, 3 km W. Cairns, 2 Males (macrolabic), 10.x.1980 (C. & A. Jeekel coll).

Distribution : India, Sri Lanka, Vietnam, West Flores, Philippine Isls, Formosa, New Guinea and Australia.

Forficula auricularia (Linnaeus)

Material examined : Australia : New South Wales, Koscinsko Natn Park, Rennex Gap 12 km NW Jinkabyne, St. 71, 3 Males, 1 Female, 8.xi.1980 (C. & A. Jeekel coll).

Distribution : Australia, Europe, North and Western Asia, North Africa, Madagascar, Oceania, Australia, Tasmania and New Zealand.

REFERENCES

Steinmann, H. 1989. *Das Tierreich*, **105** : 1-xix + 1-504 (Walter de Gruyter, Berlin. New York, 1989).