The long-horned caddisfly genus *Oecetis* (Trichoptera: Leptoceridae) in Australia: two new species groups and 17 new species

**Alice Wells**

Australian Biological Resources Study, Department of the Environment and Heritage, Canberra, ACT 2600, Australia (alice.wells@deh.gov.au)

**Abstract**


Among Australian caddisflies (Insecta: Trichoptera), the leptocerid genus *Oecetis* McLachlan is one of the most widespread and diverse genera. This paper brings to 53 the number of described species recorded for Australia, and at least a further 15 to 20 species remain to be described. Here 17 newly described species are assigned with 12 others to an informal *laustra*-group, defined by having the phallus simple and lacking parameres. Three other newly described species are placed in another informal group, the *longiterga*-group, based on the broad form of the forewing and strongly pronounced venation. Distributions are plotted for most species, new records extending distributions considerably; of the 29 *laustra*-group species included here, 15 are known in Australia only from the north of the continent. Keys are provided to the informal species-groups recognised for Australia, and to males of the *laustra*– and *longiterga*-groups.

**Keywords**

Taxonomy, Trichoptera, Leptoceridae, *Oecetis*, new species, Australia

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**Introduction**

*Oecetis* McLachlan, 1877 (Leptoceridae), a cosmopolitan genus of long-horned caddisflies, is one of several genera of Trichoptera represented Australia-wide, occurring even in the arid inland. Light trap samples of caddisflies in Australia seldom fail to include several species and often adults and immatures of some species are abundant. Adults of most Australian species are rather nondescript in appearance, although some have distinctive wing markings, and many members of one group have patches of scales on the forewing.
On the basis of features of wing venation and male genitalia, however, five distinct groups can be recognised among Australian species of Oecetis. Two of these were dealt with recently. Males of the reticulata-group (Neboiss, 1989), have an amorph-like, sculptured dorsal plate formed by the extension of abdominal tergite VIII over the terminal segments of the abdomen. In the complexa-group (Wells, 2000), males are characterised by external spiny processes or parameres associated with the phallus, and forewing fork 1 with a footstalk. Here, two further groups are recognised, the laustra- and longiterga-groups. A fifth group, the pechana-group, will be dealt with in a subsequent paper.

The laustra-group is distinguished by having the phallus very simple, lacking parameres or spines of any kind (Fig. 3). This group, its name taken from a widespread and common Australian species, comprises 29 species, 17 of them newly described. Most of these have the forewing with a distinct footstalk on fork 1, the feature upon which Chen (1992), in his unpublished revision, based a subgroup in one of his subgenera. Several species, however, have the footstalk very short (indistinct), and several have fork 1 sessile.

The longiterga-group, named for a New Guinea species, share a wing form atypical in the Australian fauna (Figs 91, 94), with pronounced veins and fork 1 sessile. Three new Australian species are included: O. crosslandi sp. nov., O. ancala sp. nov. and O. digitata sp. nov. Another unpublished New Guinean species is known that shares this wing form (Chen, 1992: fig. 4.3).

Species of the laustra-group vary in tibial spur counts: spur formulae may be 0, 2, 2 or 1, 2, 2. A count of 2, 2, 2 for O. scirpicula Neboiss, 1977 was reported, but has not been verified in material checked in this study. Variation is seen, too, in length of wing setae, with some species having long downy setae along veins while others have the vestiture uniformly short over the wing laminae, although always longer on the distal margins. Some wings are uniformly fuscous, yet others show distinctive patterns, with darker brown to black markings produced by differences in wing membrane colour, emphasised by the colour of the setae. Wing shape varies. Forewings are generally slender, having length to width ratios close to 4, but are broader in some species. The position of transverse veins in the forewing, especially the posterior anastomosis (Fig. 1, following terminology of Ruitter, 2000, after Schmid, 1980), varies across the group. The crossveins are denoted t1 for that closing discoidal cell, t2 for r-m, and t3 for the vein closing the thyridial cell. In some species, t1, t2, and t3 are more or less contiguous, or linear — as in O. scirpicula, in others no two transverse veins are aligned — as in O. multipunctata Ulmer, 1916 and O. parka Mosely, 1953. Variation within some species is apparent. Thus, in O. laustra the posterior anastomosis is linear in some populations, while the crossveins are slightly out of alignment in others. None of the laustra-group species has wing-scales such as occur in most of the pechana-group.

Assignment of males to the five Oecetis species groups using the key provided here is reasonably straightforward. Using the key to O. laustra-group species, however, may be difficult. Where possible, wing features are used for differentiation and several species are readily identified by their characteristic wing markings. For others, the often more cryptic genitalic features must be used. It is recommended that, when identifications are being made, close attention be given to the illustrations provided and to notes on variation within species.

Extensive collections in Museum Victoria (NMV), Australian National Insect Collection (ANIC) and Northern Territory Museum and Art Galleries (NTM) were available for this study; other depositories of types or new material are The Natural History Museum, London (BMNH), Queensland Museum (QM) and Waite Agricultural Research Institute (WARI). For all established species, only a diagnosis, illustrations and new distribution data are given. For the more commonly collected species, only distribution maps are given — the detailed locality data are not included here, or are included for type material only; these data are available from the author or from NMV. Members of the laustra-group occur in all Australian states and territories, and tend to be more or less peripherally distributed on the mainland; several species are found in Tasmania and one is described from Lord Howe Island. Some species appear to be localised, and others to have disjunct distributions (see Table 1); similar patterns were reported for complexa-group species (Wells, 2000). Fifteen laustra-group species are known only from northern Australia, and the richest diversity — 16 species — is recorded for Queensland (see Table 1), with most records being from along the eastern seaboard; four of these species have been collected from northern Queensland only, and one is known from Queensland and New Guinea. Few species in this group are recorded for south-western Western Australia or South Australia. Two species assigned to the longiterga-group are recorded only from northern Australia; the third is widespread — collected from northern Western Australia, the north of the NT, south-eastern Qld, eastern NSW and south-central Victoria.

As for species of the complexa-group, few females can be associated with males with certainty. Thus, new species are diagnosed on the basis of males only. Several observations on biology are pertinent, some deduced from label data. For example, locality data for O. laustra include a large number of lacustrine sites. Larvae of this species build their case from portions cut from stems of aquatic macrophytes and live amongst and on these plants (Wells, 1991; St Clair, 1994); the cases are very light and would readily be swept free of the substratum by currents. In contrast, it appears from label data that O. arcada Mosely, 1953, O. asmanista Mosely, 1953 and O. cymula Neboiss, 1982 are probably adapted to swiftly flowing waters. I have found the sand grain-cased larvae of O. digitata sp. nov. in sand in the direct flow of water under small rocky falls, and those of O. koobarra sp. nov. amongst sand on ledges in the bedrock of small permanent creeks that have moderate flow, but are subject to occasional spates. Larvae and pupae of O. erskinensis sp. nov., from Lord Howe Island, were collected from crevices, ridges and ledges in the main flow of a small stream. Like many other species, O. brevidentata sp. nov. constructs sand-grain cases and is found associated with boulders and cobbles in sand- or cobble-based creeks or rivers.
Generally, larval morphology of *Oecetis* species is remarkably uniform, a major difference being colour patterns on the head and pro- and mesonota, and occasional differences are apparent in ventral head and thoracic sternal sclerites, and in setation (Floyd, 1995; St Clair, 2000). However, mandibles of at least one *laustra*-group species, *O. brevidentata* sp. nov., are short and stout (Wells, 1991), suggesting a different diet from that of most species. The more characteristic mandible form is slender and sharply pointed.

**Key to males of *Oecetis* species groups in Australia**

1. Abdominal tergite VIII sculptured, expanded and extended distally, forming shield over terminal abdominal segments and genitalia  
   — Abdominal tergite VIII unmodified 2
2. Wings with veins strongly pronounced, fork 1 without a footstalk (sessile) (Figs 91, 94)  
   — Wings with veins normal, not particularly well pronounced, fork 1 with or without footstalk (Figs 1, 30, 53)  
   3. Phallus simple, lacking parameres (Figs 3, 38, 72)  
   — Phallus with one or more internal or external parameres or spines  
   4. Forewing fork 1 sessile, wing lamina often bearing patches of scales (androconia); phallus usually with a single internal paramere or spine  
   — Forewing fork 1 stalked, wing never bearing patches of scales; phallus with one or more external parameres  
   5. Forewing fork 1 stalked, wing lamina often bearing patches of scales (androconia); phallus usually with a single internal paramere or spine  
   — Forewing fork 1 stalked, wing never bearing patches of scales; phallus with one or more external parameres

**Key to males of the *Oecetis laustra*-group in Australia**

1. Forewing with distinct footstalk on fork 1 (Fig. 1)  
   — Forewing with fork 1 sessile (Figs 80, 87, 88), or very nearly so  

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### Table 1. *Oecetis laustra*-group species clustered according to state/territory of occurrence with the exception that a distinction is made between parts of Australia. (Abbreviations: Qld, Queensland; NSW, New South Wales; Vic., Victoria; Tas., Tasmania; SA, South Australia; SWWA, south-western Western Australia; NWWA, north-western Western Australia; NT, Northern Territory; LHI, Lord Howe Island.)

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<td><em>Oecetis inscripta</em> Kimmins, 1953</td>
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<td><em>Oecetis aeoloptera</em> Kimmins, 1953</td>
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<td><em>Oecetis cracentia</em> sp. nov.</td>
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<td><em>Oecetis multipunctata</em> Ulmer, 1916</td>
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<td><em>Oecetis ornata</em> Kimmins, 1962</td>
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<td><em>Oecetis cymula</em> Neboiss, 1982</td>
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Total species 3 7 10 16 10 10 7 3

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2. In hind wing, M branched; male genitalia not as above .
3. In hind wing, Cu1 and Cu2 arise at crossvein M-Cu (Fig. 53) .
— In hind wing, M branched; male genitalia not as above .
— In hind wing, Cu1 and Cu2 arise distal to crossvein M-Cu .
4. In forewing, at least 2 crossveins contiguous (linear), or nearly so, in posterior anastomosis (Figs 10, 12) .
— In forewing, crossveins of posterior anastomosis all clearly stepped (Figs 29, 30) .
5. Forewing with distinctive dark lines marking parts of veins, including diagonal mark linking t1, t2, t3 (Fig. 12) .
— Forewing not as above .
6. In genitalia, inferior appendages in lateral view swollen basally, distally reduced to at least one-third basal width and strongly curved dorsad .
— In genitalia, inferior appendages in lateral view not as above (Figs 18, 39) .
7. In genitalia, in ventral view, inferior appendages tapered gradually towards apex, mesial margin slightly dentate or with a single sharp mesial hook (Fig. 2) .
— In genitalia, in ventral view, inferior appendages sharply excavated at about one-third length, distally slender, mesial margin smooth (Figs 8, 26) .
8. In genitalia, in ventral view, inferior appendages with a small mesial tooth (Fig. 2) .
— In genitalia, in ventral view, inferior appendages with a sharp anteriorly directed mesial hook (Fig. 4) .
9. Forewing with dark membrane marking posterior anastomosis; genitalia in lateral view with peg-like process ventral to preanal appendages (Fig. 9) .
— Forewing without dark markings at posterior anastomosis (Fig. 10); without peg-like process ventral to preanal appendages (Fig. 11) .
10. In forewing t3 well proximal to t1 and t2, with M3+4 arising distal to t3; wing lamina patterned with dark marking on crossveins t1, t2 and M forming a short dark distal cross (Fig. 15) .
— In forewing t3 only slightly proximal to t1 and t2, with M3+4 arising at t3; wing lamina mottled, without distinct marking .
11. In genitalia in ventral view, inferior appendages broad in basal two-thirds, mesial margin rounded then abruptly constricted, curved inwards towards apices, not sharply angled (Fig. 19); tergite X slim, digitiform .
— In genitalia in ventral view, inferior appendages broad-based with meso-ventral angle slightly lobed, mesial margin strongly constricted to form a narrow lobe laterodistally, with apex sharply angled inwards (Figs 21, 24); tergite X a broad membrane .
12. In genitalia in ventral view, phallus with apex sharply delineated and deeply V-shaped (Fig. 24) .
— In genitalia in ventral view, phallus with apex rounded, very shallowly cleft (Fig. 21) .
13. In forewing, t1 more distal than t2 or t3 (Figs 64, 73) .
— In forewing, t2 more distal than t1 or t3 (Figs 30) .
14. Male genitalia with prominent, unequal sclerotised spines dorsally (Figs 65–67) .
— Male genitalia without any sclerotised spines (Figs 60, 62) .
15. Forewing fork 1 and its footstalk about equal length; on forewing a zig-zag pattern marks posterior anastomosis (Fig. 63) .
— Forewing fork 1 longer than its footstalk; forewing posterior anastomosis not marked by zig-zag pattern .
16. Male genitalia, in ventral view, with inferior appendages stout throughout length, about 1.5 times width, rounded mesially, apically a small curved lateral process (Fig. 57); tergite X broad, apically truncate (Figs 58, 59) .
— Male genitalia, in ventral view, with inferior appendages stout basally, gradually constricted to about half basal width; tergite X excavated mesially to form a pair of apically acute lateral processes (Figs 47, 48) .
17. Male genitalia, in lateral view, with a small digitate lobe dorsal to base of inferior appendages (Fig. 38) .
— Male genitalia, in lateral view, without a small lobe as above .
18. Male genitalia, in ventral view, with a lobe on mesial side of inferior appendages (Fig. 69) .
— Male genitalia, in ventral view, without a lobe as above .
19. Wings uniformly fuscous, vestiture short, dense; in male genitalia, tergite X comprising a median, tapered lobe between a pair of broadly rounded, membranous lateral lobes (Figs 42, 45) .
— Wings mottled or with some small markings, or spotted; tergite X not as above .
20. Male genitalia, in lateral view, with inferior appendages about same width throughout length, apices not downturned (Fig. 43) .
— In genitalia, in lateral view, inferior appendages dilated baso-ventrally, apices down-turned, rounded (Fig. 46) .
21. In genitalia, in ventral view, inferior appendages broad-based, abruptly narrowed, expanded slightly mesially, distally about width of narrower basal section (Fig. 50); in lateral view, inferior appendages with a broadly rounded basodorsal lobe, distally tapered, slender (Fig. 52) .
— In genitalia, in ventral view, inferior appendages not as above .
22. In genitalia, in lateral view, inferior appendages truncate apically, in distal half about half width at base (Fig. 40); in ventral view, a distinct notch on mesial margin at about two-thirds length (Fig. 39) .
— Not as above .
23. In genitalia, inferior appendages in lateral view expanded dorsally, narrow in distal two-thirds (Fig. 36); in ventral view gently curved inwards and tapered to acuminate apices (Fig. 34) .
— Not as above .
24. In genitalia, in ventral view, inferior appendages stout basally gradually curved and constricted to narrowly rounded apex; preanal appendages rounded (Figs 31–33). O. multipunctata
   — In genitalia, in ventral view, inferior appendages stout at base, abruptly narrowed to form slender disto-lateral lobes; preanal appendages in dorsal view triangular, in lateral view slender, tapered (Figs 26–28). O. aeoloptera
25. Forewing distinctly and coarsely patterned, dark brown and fuscous (Fig. 80). O. ornata
   — Forewing not as above, but may be spotted, moth-like O. curta
26. Male genitalia with, tergite X hairy, rounded, cleft medially (Fig. 75). O. curta
   — Tergite X not as above 27
27. In genitalia, tergite X membranous with apicolateral angles acute (Fig. 48). O. spicata (NT form)
   — In genitalia, tergite X not as above 28
28. Wings not spotted; in genitalia, in lateral view, preanal appendages narrow, length 2x width (Figs 78, 79). O. aduncata
   — Wings spotted (Figs 87, 88); in genitalia, in lateral view, preanal appendages broadly rounded or subtriangular (Figs 86, 89) O. aduncata
29. In genitalia, tergite X in dorsal view minaret-shaped (Fig. 85); inferior appendages in ventral view with tiny hook at mesial angle O. cepaforma
   — Male genitalia with, tergite X in dorsal view broad, apically truncate (Fig. 90); inferior appendages in ventral view without tiny hook at mesial angle O. dostinei

**Key to males of Oecetis longiterga-group in Australia**

1. Forewing Cu1a straight (Fig. 94); in genitalia a single paramere with apex spiked and toothed (Figs 98, 100) O. crosslandi
   — Forewing Cu1a with distinct curve (Fig. 91); male genitalia not as above 2
2. Male genitalia with, in lateral view, a sclerotised process dorsal to inferior appendages (Fig. 97); in ventral view, forming a stout structure, angled mesially at midlength (Fig. 95) O. ancala
   — Male genitalia without any sclerotised processes (Figs 92, 93) O. digitata

**Species of the laustra-group**

*Oecetis laustra* Mosely

Figures 1–3, 101


**Material examined.** Holotype. Male, Yanchep, WA, 31°32.9'S 115°41.2'E (BMNH).

Other material. About 180 samples in ANIC, NTM, NMV and WARI.

**Diagnosis.** Wings slightly mottled, fuscous-brown/grey, with short hair on veins; forewing (Fig. 1) length 4 times maximum width, footstalk of fork 1 slightly shorter than fork, posterior anastomosis almost linear, to linear, very slightly oblique; hindwing (Fig. 1) with M branched; in male genitalia, inferior appendages (Figs 2–3) broad and stout, in ventral view, a small mesial tooth at about two-thirds length, in lateral view broadly rounded above and below in basal half, distally about one-third maximum basal width; preanal lobes short, rounded.

**Distribution.** Widespread in Australia, in lentic and slower lotic waters, but not collected from arid central Australia (Fig. 101).

**Remarks.** The stouter inferior appendages distinguish *O. laustra* from *O. atarpa* and *O. aeoloptera*, the absence of a sharp, anteriorly directed mesial hook on the inferior appendages distinguishes it from *O. pseudolaustra* sp. nov. *Oecetis laustra* is one of the most widespread and abundant of Australian *Oecetis* species, although unlike *O. pechana* it has not been collected from the natural and artificial waterbodies of arid inland Australia. In its present concept, the species is quite variable across its range, and may eventually be demonstrated to be several species. The posterior anastomosis of the forewing is usually more or less linear, but may be slightly stepped; and in the male genitalia, the form of the mesial margin of the inferior appendages may be more or less dentate (Mosely and Kimmings, 1953: fig. 209a, d; Neboiss, 1986: 269).

*Oecetis pseudolaustra* sp. nov.

Figures 4–6, 102

**Material examined.** Holotype, male, Qld, Lakefield NP, Sweetwater Lagoon, 11 Oct 2002, G. Theischinger (ANIC).

Paratypes. 21 males, 1 female, data as for holotype (ANIC); 18 males, 3 females, Cape York Peninsula, Wenlock River crossing (to Iron Range), 5 Oct 2002, G. Theischinger (ANIC, NMV, QM).

**Diagnosis.** As *O. laustra* except inferior appendages with a sharp anteriorly directed mesial hook.

**Description.** Tibial spurs 1, 2, 2. Male forewing length 3.4–5.0 mm. Wings as for *O. laustra*, mottled fuscous/brown, densely covered with short hair. Male genitalia as in Figs 4–6. Preanal appendages in dorsal view rounded apically and about as long as wide. Tergite X a single membranous plate, narrowly truncate apically. Inferior appendages stout, in lateral view broadly rounded above and below in basal half, distally about one-third maximum basal width, in ventral view with a sharp mesial hook on inner margin. Phallus length in lateral view equal to width.

**Distribution.** Far north of Cape York Peninsula, northern Qld (Fig. 102).

**Remarks.** At the Lakefield National Park site, this species was collected together with several specimens of *Oecetis laustra*, which could be distinguished by their slightly darker colour as well as the distinctive difference in male genitalia. The stouter inferior appendages distinguish *O. pseudolaustra* and *O. laustra* from *O. atarpa* and *O. aeoloptera*. 
**Oecetis atarpa** Mosely


**Material examined.** Paratype. Male, National Park [Royal National Park], NSW, 34°3.9'S 151°3.1'E (BMNH).

**Other material.** 27 samples in ANIC and NMV.

**Diagnosis.** Forewing (Fig. 7) length 3–4 times maximum width, fork 1 with footstalk, posterior anastomosis with t2 and t3 contiguous, t1 more proximal than both t2 and t3; in the male genitalia (Figs 8, 9) abdominal segment IX in lateral view produced distally in a down-turned peg ventral to preanal lobe; and inferior appendages in lateral view long and slender distally, rounded and swollen basally with basal third about 4 times broader than distal two-thirds which is less than twice length of basal section.

**Distribution.** Throughout Australia but only small scattered collections taken in NT (Fig. 103).

**Remarks.** Closely resembling *Oecetis scirpicula* and *O. aeoloptera* in form of male genitalia but distinguished by the...
stepped arrangement of crossveins in the posterior anastomosis in forewing, and the dorsolateral ‘peg’ on abdominal segment IX. The very slight difference between *O. atarpa* and *O. scirpicula* Neboiss—mainly the more strictly linear posterior anastomosis in the forewing of the latter and in the male genitalia a small difference in proportions in inferior appendages—is well within the range of variation exhibited by other Australian *Oecetis*, particularly those with temperate to tropical distributions. For the present, however, the two names are retained.

**Oecetis scirpicula** Neboiss

Figures 10, 11, 104


**Material examined.** Tas.: 2 males, Canal at Interlaken, 42°8.8’S 147°10.5’E, 2 Feb 1966, G.E. Edmunds (ANIC); males, females, Navarre River, 42°9.5’S 146°8.6’E, 12 Feb 1967, E.F. Riek (ANIC); 1 male, Olga-Hardwood River, Saddle buttongrass plain, 42°57.8’S 145°55.3’E, 4 Apr 1977, Allbrook, Richardson, Swain (NMV); 2 males, 12 km NNE Bronte Park, 42°02’S 146°33’E, 2 Feb 1983, J.C. Cardale (ANIC); male, 2 females, Pelion Hut, 3 km S Mt Oakleigh, 41°50’S 146°03’E, Feb. 1990, E.S. Nielsen, lt trap (ANIC).

**Diagnosis.** Forewing (Fig. 10) length about 4 times maximum width, veins of the posterior anastomosis contiguous; in male genitalia (Fig. 11), abdominal segment IX produced posteriorly to form a triangular process ventral to preanal appendages and inferior appendages with distal slender distal portion twice length of basal portion.

**Distribution.** Tas. (Fig. 104).

**Remarks.** Although males of this species closely resemble those of *O. atarpa*, as noted above, the name *scirpicula* is retained here for these Tasmanian specimens. The two species have only slight difference in forewing venation and in the genitalia—proportions of the inferior appendages, differences that are well within the range of variability accepted for other species. Size differences, however, are considerable, the anterior wing length of around 9 mm for *O. scirpicula* being several millimetres longer than in *O. atarpa*. In addition, females of *O. scirpicula* lack the broadly rounded dorsal lobes seen in *O. atarpa* (Mosely and Kimmins, 1953: fig. 203c), having in their place a pair of almond-shaped lobes.

**Oecetis inscripta** Kimmins

Figures 12–14, 105.


**Material examined.** Holotype. Male, Bathurst, NSW (BMNH).

52 samples in ANIC, NMV and WARI.

**Diagnosis.** Forewing (Fig. 12) length almost 5 times maximum width, lamina marked with bold dark streaks, not the more usual dark spots or patches; footstalk on fork 1, and t1 and t2 contiguous, t3 more proximal than the 2 other crossveins of the posterior anastomosis. In the male genitalia (Figs 13, 14), a rounded basodorsal lobe on the inferior appendages and inferior-ior appendages in ventral view slender with length 3 times maximum width, irregularly tapered towards apex.

**Distribution.** Eastern Australia from Tas, northwards almost to Cairns, north-eastern Qld, probably widespread in Murray–Darling basin (Fig. 105).

**Oecetis brevidentata** sp. nov.

Figures 15–18, 106


**Material examined.** Holotype, male, NT, Katherine River Gorge National Park, 13°23.9’S 133°10.0’E, 13 Aug 1979, J. Blyth (NMV T-18524).

Paratypes. NT: 4 males, 3 females, same data as for holotype (NMV); 1 male, Kakadu National Park, Jim Jim Creek, 3 km below falls, 13°15.9’S 132°51.1’E, 1 Sep 1979, J. Blyth (NMV); 1 male, ARRS, South Alligator River, at Gimbat OSS Station, 13°34.3’S 132°36.7’E, 24 May 1988, A. Wells and P. Suter (NMV); 9 males, 1 female, South Alligator River below BHP camp, 25 May 1988, P. Suter and A. Wells (NMV); 2 males, ARRS, SAR site 1, 14 Jun 1988, P. Dostine (NTM); 1 male, 1 female, ARRS, South Alligator River, at Gimbat OSS Station, 13°34.3’S 132°36.7’E, 28 Apr 1989, P. Dostine (NTM); 2 males, 1 female, 12°48’S 132°49’E, Kakadu National Park, Baroalba Springs, 4 Oct 1991, A. Wells (NTM).

Other material. NT: male, 3 females, ARRS South Alligator River above Fisher Creek jcn, 13°34’S 132°34’E, 18–20 Apr 1989, Suter and Wells (NTM); 2 males, female, Gunlom (as UDP Falls), 13°24.9’S 132°26.0’E, 18–19 Jul 1980, M.B. Malipatil (NTM).

**Diagnosis.** Forewing with length about 5 times maximum width, lamina marked by a distinctive cross formed by dark membrane and setae on t1 and t2 and their junction with R3–4; t1 and t2 contiguous, t3 well proximal of both. In male genitalia, inferior appendages in ventral view slender and curving, and in lateral view with apices acute and directed ventrally, rather than straight as in *O. multipunctata*.

**Description.** Tibial spurs 1, 2, 2. Male forewing length 6.1–7.8 mm. Wings with vestiture of even length, without spots, but forewing (Fig. 15) with distinctive dark cross marking the junctions of t1 and t2 with R, footstalk on fork 1 longer than fork. Male genitalia as in Figs 16–18. Segment IX widest midlaterally; preanal appendages separate, ovoid. Segment X elongate, membranous, dorsal process short, slender. Inferior appendages narrow, tapered, slightly bowed, apices downturned in lateral view. Phallus with length about twice width, beak-like apically.

**Distribution.** Alligator Rivers region of northern NT (Fig. 106).

**Remarks.** The larva of this species is unique among Australian *Oecetis* species. Associated as ‘sp. E’ by Wells (1991), it is the only *Oecetis* species of which I am aware that has short, blunt mandibles. This feature suggests that *O. brevidentata* has dietary habits quite different from other congeners. It may well be a detritivore.

**Etymology.** Latin, descriptive of the larval mandibles.
Figure 11, *Oecetis scirpicula* Neboiss, male genitalia, lateral view [from Neboiss, 1977].
Figures 12–14, *O. inscripta* Kimmins: 12, forewing; 13, 14, male inferior appendages in ventral view, genitalia in lateral view [from Mosely and Kimmins, 1953].
Figures 15–18, *O. brevidentata* sp. nov.: 15, forewing; 16–18, male genitalia, ventral, dorsal and lateral views.
Figure 19, 20, *O. asmanista* Mosely, male genitalia, ventral and lateral views [from Mosely and Kimmins, 1953].

*Oecetis asmanista* Mosely


*Oecetis geevestonia* Neboiss, 1974: 15. [Unnecessary replacement name for *O. ochracea* Jaquemart.]

**Material examined.** Holotype. male, Tas. (BMNH).

Tas.: Male, female, Derwent Bridge, 12 Feb 1967, E.F. Riek (ANIC); male holotype (BMNH); 1 male, Olga Camp, Gordon-Smith River junction, 42°39.1'S 145°48.0'E, 2 Feb 1976, Howard, Suter (NMV); males, females, West Bay River, Margate, 43°1.7'S.
147°15.7'E, 6 Jan 1977, Coleman, Neboiss, Allbrook (NMV); males, females, Franklin River-Roaring Creek junction, 4 km above Gordon River junction, 8 Jan 1977, Coleman, Neboiss, Allbrook (NMV); 1 female, Swamp nr Olga River, 19 km above Gordon River Junction, 42°42.8'S 145°46.8'E, 13 Jan 1977, Neboiss and Swain (NMV); 3 males, Pelion Hut, 3 km S Mt Oakleigh, 41°50'S 146°03'E, 6–11 Mar 1991 at light, M. Horak, P. McQuillan (ANIC). Vic: male, Tanjil River Jcn, 10 km N of Willow Grove, 38°4.2'S 146°10.6'E, 18 Dec 1973, A. Neboiss (NMV).

**Diagnosis.** Forewing length over 4 times maximum width, fork 1 with footstalk and t1 and t2 contiguous, t3 only slightly more proximal than t1 or t2. In male genitalia (Figs 19, 20), inferior appendages skittle-shaped in lateral view being roundly constricted at two-thirds length, narrow distally; tergum X a narrow process, almost twice as long as preanal appendages.

**Distribution.** Tas. and south-central Vic. (one specimen only) (Fig. 107).

**Oecetis minasata** Mosely

Figures 21–23, Oecetis minasata Mosely, male genitalia, ventral, dorsal and lateral views [from Mosely and Kimmins, 1953].

Figures 24–25, *O. erskinensis* sp. nov., male genitalia, ventral, dorsal and lateral views.

Diagnosis. Wings dark brownish, unicolorous, with long downy hair on the veins; forewing length 4 times maximum width, posterior anastomosis contiguous. In male genitalia (Figs 21–23) in ventral view, inferior appendages with basal portion as long as wide, roundly produced ventromesially, and constricted and sharply returned forming dorsolateral lobes; preanal appendages about 3 times as long as wide.

Distribution. South-eastern Australia: from south-eastern NSW, ACT, Vic. and Tas. (Fig. 108).

Remarks. Males of O. minasata are distinguished from those of O. erskinensis by the rounded apex of the phallus, and from O. asmanista by the angular ventral expansion of the inferior appendages and the shorter median process of tergum X. The female lacks the patches of bristles characteristic of O. asmanista. In form of male genitalia, O. cymula and O. paracymula also show resemblance, but O. minasata can be distinguished from the two species by the crossovena of the posterior anastomosis contiguous, not stepped.

Oecetis erskinensis sp. nov.

Figures 24, 25

Paratype. Male, data as for holotype (ANIC).
Other material. Larvae, pupa, locality as for holotype, 24 Dec 2001, Wells and Mound (ANIC).

Diagnosis. As for O. minasata, but in male genitalia (Figs 24, 25) setae on inturned apices of inferior appendages are all about equal in size and length, and in ventral view the apex of phallus is divided to form 2 apically acute, sclerotised lobes.

Description. Spurs 1, 2, 2. Male forewing length, 7.9 mm. Wings of typical shape, forewing fork 1 with footstalk less than half length of fork, posterior anastomosis with t1 and t2 linear, oblique, t3 slightly more proximal, angled. Male genitalia, Figs 22, 25. Segment IX narrow, preanal appendages more than twice as long as wide, rounded apically. Segment X slender, almost same width throughout length. Inferior appendages in ventral view clasper-shaped, inturned subapically, apices obliquely truncate. Phallus very short, with distal sharply downturned section almost twice length of basal portion, rounded basally, bifurcate, lobes sclerotised, acute apically.

Remarks. Oecetis minasata and O. erskinensis are closely similar, possibly sister species, distinguished by genitalic character states as noted under O. minasata.

Etymology. Named for the collecting site.

Oecetis aeoloptera Kimmins

Figures 26–29, 109

Oecetis aeoloptera Kimmins in Mosely and Kimmins, 1953: 287, fig. 201.

Material examined. Holotype. Male, Murwillumbah, NSW (BMNH). 21 samples in ANIC and NMV.

Diagnosis. Forewing (Fig. 29) length 4 times maximum width, posterior anastomosis clearly non-linear, with t2 more distal than t1 and t3 which are both approximately equal; in male genitalia (Figs 26–28) inferior appendages pincer-shaped in ventral view, in lateral view long and slender distally; preanal lobes discrete, triangular.

Distribution. Eastern Vic., more north-eastern NSW, south-eastern and northern Qld, northern NT to northern WA (Fig. 109).

Remarks. In male genitalic features O. aeloptera closely resembles O. atarpa and O. scirpicula but is distinguished by the more attenuate inferior appendages, and preanal lobes elongate triangular in ventral view, in lateral view, slender, tapered, rather than rounded.

Oecetis multipunctata Ulmer

Figures 30–33, 110


Material examined. 48 samples in ANIC and NMV.

Diagnosis. Wings with pattern of dark spots (Fig. 30); forewing length about 4.5 times maximum width, fork 1 with footstalk and veins of the posterior anastomosis clearly stepped. In male genitalia (Figs 31–33) segment X simple, short and slender; inferior appendages without any lobes or processes, length about 3 times width, tapered distally; and phallus curved downwards.

Distribution. Widespread in northern and eastern Qld, and also collected from north-eastern NSW (Fig. 110).

Remarks. Oecetis cepaforma, O. dostinei and O. parka also have spotted wings, but O. cepaforma and O. dostinei have the forewings broad and ‘floppy’ compared to those of O. multipunctata and O. parka. These last two species are distinguished by male genitalic features, particularly the presence of the digitate laterobasal lobe on the inferior appendages of O. parka, and the more rounded, rather than angular shape of the inferior appendages of O. multipunctata. The male genitalia of Oecetis multipunctata closely resemble those of the NT O. brevidentata from which O. multipunctata is distinguished by its spotted wings and shape of the phallus. Also in O. multipunctata, in lateral view, the inferior appendages are almost straight, whereas in O. brevidentata sp. nov. the apices are down-turned.

Oecetis cracenta sp. nov.

Figures 34–36, 111


Material examined. 48 samples in ANIC and NMV.

Diagnosis. Wings mottled, not noticeably spoty; forewing length about 4 times maximum width, fork 1 with footstalk, and
crossveins of posterior anastomosis clearly stepped. In male genitalia, in ventral view, the inferior appendages taper smoothly from base to apex and lack a mesial process, and the preanal appendages are rounded.

**Description.** Tibial spurs 0, 2, 2. Male forewing length 4.9–5.4 mm. Wings with vestiture of even length, without scales or spots, but forewing with a distinctive dark line marking the distal crossveins; forewing with footstalk on fork 1 and t2 more distal than t1 and t3. Male genitalia as in Figs 34–36. Segment IX short; preanal appendages in lateral view narrow at base and apically rounded, in ventral view stout, rounded. Inferior appendages in lateral view slightly expanded basodorsally, slender in distal two-thirds, in ventral view closely appressed basomesially, tapered to narrow apices, curved mesially, straighter distally. Phallus strongly downturned, sharply ‘beaked’ apically.

**Distribution.** Kimberley region of northern WA, and northern NT (Fig. 111).

**Remarks.** Seen in lateral view, the male genitalia of this species resemble closely those of *O. crena* from which it is distinguished by the smoothly rounded inner margin of the inferior appendages.

**Etymology.** Latin, descriptive of the male inferior appendages.
**Oecetis parka** Mosely

*Oecetis parka* Mosely in Mosely and Kimmins, 1953: 290, fig. 205.

*Material examined.* Holotype. Male, NSW, National Park [?the Royal National Park] (BMNH). 15 samples in ANIC and NMV.

*Diagnosis.* Wings spotted; forewing length about 4 times maximum width, footstalk present, veins of posterior anastomosis clearly stepped with t2 more distal than t1 and t3. In male genitalia (Figs 37, 38) an unusual dorsal digitiform process arises at the base of the inferior appendages, which are about 4 times as long as wide, and almost rod-shaped and straight in distal three-quarters of length.

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**Diagrams:**

Figures 39, 40, *Oecetis arcada* Mosely, male genitalia, ventral and lateral views [from Mosely and Kimmins, 1953].

Figures 41–42, *O. cymula* Neboiss, male genitalia, ventral, dorsal and lateral views [from Neboiss, 1982].

Figures 43–46, *O. paracymlula,* sp. nov., male genitalia, ventral, dorsal and lateral views.

Figures 47–49, *O. spicata* sp. nov., male genitalia, ventral, dorsal and lateral views.
Distribution. Eastern Vic., east-central NSW and north-eastern Qld (Fig. 112).

Remarks. The dorsal process at the base of the inferior appendages is unique among Australian Oecetis, but closely resembles similar structures seen in some Setodes species described by Schmid (1987), for example S. apitayati and S. uttamavarna. This species is never common in collections.

Oecetis arcada Mosely

Figures 39, 40, 113


Oecetis albodecorata Jaquemart, 1965 (Synonymy by Neboiss, 1977: 148)

Material examined. Holotype of O. arcada. Male, Cradle Mountains, Tas. (BMNH).

18 samples in NMV and ANIC.

Diagnosis. Male genitalia (Figs 39, 40), with the inferior appendages curving upwards and apically truncate; preanal appendages almost 3 times longer than wide. Forewing length less than 4 times maximum width; footstalk on fork 1 and t2 more distal than t1 and t3.

Distribution. Widespread in Tas. (Fig. 113).

Oecetis cymula Neboiss

Figures 41–43, 114


Material examined. WA: 3 paratype males, same data as for holotype (ANIC); paratypes, females, same locality as holotype, 22 Nov 1978, A. Neboiss (ANIC); males, females, 15 miles NW of Walpole, 15 Nov 1958, E.F. Riek (ANIC); males, females, Harvey River nr Harvey Falls, 15 km E of Harvey, 33°5.5'S 116°2.0'E, 21 Nov 1978, A. Neboiss (ANIC).

Diagnosis. Forewing length almost 5 times maximum width, footstalk on fork 1 about half as long as the fork, long downy hairs along wing veins, and t2 more distal than t1 and t3. In male genitalia (Figs 41–43), ventral view, tergum X tapers to a narrowly triangular apex; length of median process of tergum X exceeds length of preanal appendages and inferior appendages are well separated mesally, thus lacking (when viewed laterally) an expanded ventral projection near the base. Females have on each side on segment VIII an area of bristle-like setae.

Distribution. South-western WA (Fig. 114)

Remarks. Oecetis cymula closely resembles O. paracymula but has a tibial spur count of 1, 2, 2, whereas the latter has 0, 2, 2, and O. cymula has fine setae apically and on the mesial margin on the inferior appendages whereas O. paracymula has shorter, stout almost peg-like setae.

Oecetis paracymula sp. nov.

Figures 44–46, 115.


Paratypes. NSW, 2 males, data as for holotype (NMV); male, Barrington Tops, 16 Nov 1953, A. Neboiss (NMV). Other material. 4 females, data as for holotype (NMV).

Diagnosis. Adults densely hairy; forewing shape as for O. cymula, footstalk on fork 1, and t2 more distal than t1 or t3. In male genitalia, in ventral view, median process of tergum X constricted close do its base, then swollen, narrowest distally; inferior appendages in ventral view loosely turned inwards in distal third and in lateral view down-turned apically.

Description. Spurs 0, 2, 2. Male forewing length 8.7 mm. Wings with long downy hair along veins; forewing narrow proximally expanded more distally, rounded apically, footstalk on fork 1 about one-fifth length of fork, discoidal and thyridial cells about equal length, anterior anastomosis stepped with t1 and t2 almost level, t3 well anterior to other 2 veins; hind wing slender, narrow. Male genitalia (Figs 44–46). Segment IX broadly convex in lateral view, preanal appendages elongate, slender, more robust in dorsal view, about two-thirds length of median process of tergum X. Tergum X with the membranous ventral plate forming a pair of widely almond-shaped lobes, median process constricted towards base, slightly swollen medially, narrower distally, in lateral view, about twice length of anal appendages. Inferior appendages slender in postero-lateral half, in lateral view form resembling O. minasata, down-turned apically and with short stout setae on terminal third. Phallus stout, strongly down-turned distally.

Distribution. North-eastern NSW (Fig. 115).

Etymology. Showing close resemblance to O. cymula.

Oecetis spicata sp. nov.


Material examined. Holotype, male, Gunshot Creek at Telegraph Crossing, 11°42.9’S 142°20.0’E, 14–15 Feb 1992, D. Cartwright and A. Wells (ANIC).

Paratypes, Qld: males, 5 females, Palmer River, 20 Jun 1971, E.F. Riek (ANIC); males, females, Cape York Peninsula, 15°39.9’S 142°29.0’E, 5 Feb 1992, D. Cartwright and A. Wells (QM); 1 male, Bertie Creek, 1 km SE Heathlands HS, 11°49.9’S 142°29.0’E, 5 Feb 1992, D. Cartwright and A. Wells (QM); 1 male, Cape York Peninsula, Heathlands, Bertie Creek, 11°49.9’S 142°29.0’E, 23 Mar 1993, M. Crossland (ANIC).

Other material. Qld: male, Mossman, 12 Jun 1971, E.F. Riek (ANIC); males, females, Palmer River, 20 Jun 1971, E.F. Riek (ANIC); males, females, Cape Creek Crossing, 25 km NNE of Coen, 4–5 Jul 1976, G.B. and S.R. Monteith (ANIC); male, Cockatoo Creek Crossing, 17 km NW Heathlands, 11°39’S 142°27’E, 25.vii–19.Aug 1992, P. Zborowski, J.C. Cardale, open forest, Malaise #5 (ANIC); male, Cape York Peninsula, Heathlands, Bertie Creek, 23 Mar 1993, M. Crossland (ANIC); NT: 1 male, South Alligator River, UDP Falls [Gunlom], 13°24.9’S 132°26.0’E, 18–19 Jul 1980, M.B. Malipati (NTM); 2 males, ARRS, South Alligator River, at Gimbat OSS Stn, 13°34.3’S 132°36.7’E, 28 Apr 1988, P. Dostine (NTM); male, ARRS, 5 km W South Alligator River OSS Stn, 19 Apr
1988, Wells and Suter, 13°33'S 132°34'E (NMV); male, Litchfield NP, Walker Creek, 18–19 Apr 1992, Wells (NTM). WA: 2 males, 2 females, Bell Gorge, Melaleuca Hole, 17°01’S 125°14'E, I. Edwards (NMV).

**Diagnosis.** Male genitalia, in ventral view, with inferior appendages broad-based, slightly produced apicomically, lateral lobes almost twice basal section, and tergite X a simple, broad membranous plate with acute apicodorsal angles.

**Description.** Spurs 1, 2, 2. Forewing length 4.5–5.1 mm. Wings of typical slender shape, neuration variable with forewing fork 1 with a short footstalk (N Qld forms) or sessile (NT form), t1 slightly more distal than t3 (N Qld) or both t1 and t3 well distal of t2; wing membrane dark along cross veins of posterior anastomosis. Male genitalia, Figs 47–49. Segment IX narrow, preanal appendages short, broad-based, rounded apically. Segment X broad at base and apex, a wide apicomesal concavity resulting in acute apicolateral processes. Inferior appendages in ventral view broad-based, extending apico-laterally as stout short lobes, in lateral view more or less straight but with a basi-ventral notch. Phallus strongly arched in lateral view.

**Distribution.** South-eastern and northern Qld, northern NT and northern WA (Fig. 116).

**Remarks.** The forewing venation of *O. spicata* varies from footstalk short on forewing fork 1 (N Qld form) to having fork 1 sessile (NT form), and crossveins of the posterior anastomosis varied, as indicated above. However, the males from NE Queensland, N Northern Territory and NW Western Australia show such close similarities in genitalic structures that, tentatively, the differing position of the fork on the forewing is considered simply to be variation within a local population.

**Etymology.** From Latin *spica* — point, for the apicolateral processes on segment X.

**Oecetis crena** sp. nov.

**Material examined.** Holotype, male, Vic., Gibbo River at Exhibition Creek junction, 20 km N Benambra, 16 Jan 1982, A. Wells (NMV T-18512).

Paratypes, Vic.: 1 male, 5 females, Mitta Mitta river, 8 km NE of Benambra, 5 Feb 1974, A. Nebosr (NMV); 1 male, Wellington River, 23 km NNE of Licola on Tamboritha Road, 21 Feb 1978, NMV Survey Department (NMV); 1 male, Yarra River, East Warburton, i.i.1980, I Campbell (NMV); 1 male, 2 females, Nongungarra and Crooked River junction, 4 Feb 1981, J. Blyth (NMV); male, Cobungra River, at Anglers Rest, 15 January 1982, A. Wells (NMV).

**Diagnosis.** Male genitalia inferior appendages clasper-shaped, with a median expansion on the inner margin and fringes of short setae dorso-basally; in the forewing a footstalk on fork 1, and t2 more distal than t1 and t3.

**Description.** Spurs 1, 2, 2. Forewing length 7.1–8.1mm. Wings with long downy setae along veins; forewing fork 1 about twice length of footstalk, anterior anastomosis with t1 and t2 almost level, more distal than t3. Male genitalia, Figs 50–52. Segment IX short, a triangular projection midlaterally on apical margin, preanal appendages small, ovoid, separated. Segment X simple, membranous. Inferior appendages elongate, slender, in ventral view with a medial notch on inner margin; in lateral view a knob dorsally at base, slender and tapered distally. Phallus short, down-turned mediately.

**Distribution.** Eastern Vic. (Fig. 118).

**Oecetis quadrata** sp. nov.

**Material examined.** Holotype, male, North Qld, Zarda Creek nr Mt Misery, W of Mossman, 1200 m, 23 Nov 1974, M.S. Moulds (NMV T-18513).

Other material. Qld: male, Birthday Creek, 6 km NWW Paluma, 18°59’S 146°10’E, 25 Sep 1980, J.C. Cardale (ANIC).

**Diagnosis.** Cu1 and Cu2 in the hind wing arising at crossvein m–cu, and preanal appendages exceedingly long, rectangular, free.

**Description.** Tibial spurs 1, 2, 2. Male forewing length 7.6 mm. Wings (Fig. 53) slender, forewing length about 4 times maximum width, footstalk on fork 1 about as long as fork, posterior anastomosis stepped with t2 more distal than t1, t3 distad of t1 and t2; in hind wing Cu1 and Cu2 arise at crossvein m–cu. Male genitalia, Figs 54–56. Segment IX broad ventrally and laterally, narrow middorsally, preanal appendages large, sub-quadrate. Segment X membranous, bifid. Inferior appendages broad in basal half, strongly constricted medially, narrow distally. Phallus short, apex strongly down-turned.

**Distribution.** North-eastern Qld (Fig. 118).

**Remarks.** When viewed laterally, the genitalic features of *O. quadrata* males generally resemble those of *O. inscripta*. The species has been collected from two disjunct localities only.

**Etymology.** Latin, *quadra* — four-cornered, for the unusual shape of the preanal appendages.

**Oecetis dilata** sp. nov.

**Material examined.** Holotype, male, WA, 9 km N of Kununurra, 19 Sep 1979, J. Blyth (NMV T-18514).


**Diagnosis.** Forewing length about 4 times maximum width, footstalk present on fork 1, t1 more distal than t2 or t3. Males genitalic features, inferior appendages, in ventral view have width about 0.75 times length, and are rounded towards the
Description. Spurs 1, 2, 2. Male forewing length 4.8–5.4 mm. Forewing with footstalk on fork 1 slightly shorter than fork; posterior anastomosis stepped with t1 more distal than t2, t3 oblique, slightly distad of t2. Male genitalia, Figs 57–59. Segment IX uniformly narrow, preanal appendages ovoid, widely separated. Segment X simple broad, apically truncate. Inferior appendages stout, apically rounded with short, thin lobe laterally; narrow and straight in lateral view, rounded apically. Phallus stout, rounded, strongly curved downwards.

Distribution. Far northern Qld, NT and WA (Fig. 119).

Etymology. Latin, dilata — enlarge, for the unusually broad inferior appendages.

**Oecetis koobarra** sp. nov.

Figures 60–63, 120

**Oecetis** sp. ‘H’ — Wells 1991: fig. 139.

Material examined. Holotype, male, NT, Kakadu National Park, Radon Creek, 3 Sep 1979, J. Blyth (NTM).

Paratypes. NT: 15 males, ARRS, Radon Springs, 13/14 Apr 1988, Suter and Wells (NTM and NMV); male, Magela Creek, 7 Apr 1993, P. Dostine (NTM).

Other material. NT: male, 3 females, 12°50'S 132°51'E, 16 km EbyN of Mt Cahill, 13 Jun 1973, J.C. Cardale (ANIC); male, 12°48'S 132°49'E, Kakadu National Park, Baroalba Springs, 16 Jan 1992, Wells and Webber (NTM); pupa, Litchfield National Park, Walker Creek, 18 Apr 1992, A. Wells (NMV); 2 males, Litchfield National Park, Walker Creek, 18/19 Apr 1992, A. Wells (NMV); 4 males, 12°48'S 132°49'E, Kakadu National Park,

**Diagnosis.** Dark zig-zag mark on forewing (Fig. 63) formed by pattern on wing membrane around the stepped posterior anastomosis; overall straight-sided male genitalia, phallus narrow mesially, with apex obliquely truncate.

**Description.** Tibial spurs 1, 2, 2. Male forewing length 4.6–5.6 mm. Wing laminae with vestiture of equal length; forewing (Fig. 63) with a zig-zag pattern marking posterior anastomosis, a footstalk on fork 1, t1 more distal than t2, t2 and t3 contiguous. Male genitalia, Figs 60–62. Segment IX almost uniform in length all round, preanal appendages well separated, ovoid. Segment X with long, slender dorsal process. Inferior appendages straight-sided, stepped in midlength on inner margin, and with a slender dorsal lobe at midlength. Phallus in lateral view slender medially, obliquely angled towards apex.

Figures 60–63, *Oecetis koobarra* sp. nov.: 60–62, male genitalia, ventral, dorsal and lateral views; 63, forewing.
Figures 64–67, *O. falcata* sp. nov.; 64, forewing; 65–67, male genitalia in ventral, dorsal and lateral views.
Figures 68, 69, *O. terania* sp. nov., male genitalia in lateral and ventral views.
**Oecetis falcata** sp. nov.

Figures 64–67, 121


Distribution. Far northern Qld (Fig. 121).

Etymology. Latin, *falcata* — sickle-shaped, for the shape of the lateral processes.

Remarks. As with *O. ancala*, grouping of this species is equivocal, as the homologies of the processes are uncertain.
Diagnosis. Hindwing vein M unbranched; in male genitalia, short, straight phallus and elongate inferior appendages with a strong medial constriction.

Description. Spurs 0, 2, 2. Wings (Fig. 73) narrow, length over 4 times maximum width, with downy hair (readily lost in preserved specimens). Male forewing length 4.2–5.4 mm. Forewing with footstalk on fork 1 of variable length, less than or equal to length of fork; posterior anastomosis in part obliquely linear, t3 more proximal than t1 and t2. Hind wing with venation strongly reduced, M unbranched. Maxillary palps very long, all segments of equal length. Male genitalia, Figs 70–72. Segment IX excavated midventrally, preanal...
appendages elongate-ovate, separated. Segment X in form of a pair of stout, membranous lobes, with setate, digitiform mesal process. Inferior appendages in ventral view broad-based, slender distally, slightly dilated towards apices, in lateral view, slender but constricted medially. Phallus short, straight, with only a slight apiocentral lip.

**Distribution.** Northern NT and northern WA (Fig. 123).

**Etymology.** From Latin, *pappus* — hair, for the hairy wings.

*Oecetis curta* sp. nov.

Figures 74–76, 124

**Material examined.** Holotype. Male, Qld, Girrareen National Park, nr Wyberba, 10 Oct 1973, A. Neboiss (NMV T-18518).


**Diagnosis.** Wings uniformly fuscous to mottled; forewing without footstalk on fork 1. In male genitalia, tergite X covered with short setae and shallowly cleft apically; inferior appendages elongate and straight to slightly curved in lateral view.

**Description.** Spurs 1, 2, 2. Male forewing length 6.6–8.6 mm. Wings rounded apically, hair along veins long, downy in appearance, forewing fork 1 sessile or with a very short footstalk; t1 more distal than t2 and t3 which are almost contiguous, all three crossveins marked by darkened membrane. Male genitalia, Figs 74–76. Segment IX with lateral cleft, preanal anastomosis obliquely stepped, t1 more distal than other two crossveins. Male genitalia, Figs 77–79. Segment IX with apical margin excavated midventrally and midlaterally, preanal appendages, small, well separated, ovate. Segment X broad, membranous, in lateral view broad and down-curved, medial process club-shaped. Inferior appendages appear to be slender and strongly in-turned apically, but are actually broad and deeply ridge, in lateral view broad-based, tapered distally and down-turned apically. Phallus short, simple, down-turned, in lateral view always with a more or less triangular area dorsolaterally before apex.

**Distribution.** Eastern Australia, from eastern Vic. to southeastern Qld (Fig. 125).

**Etymology.** Latin, *aduncata* — bent inwards, for the shape of the inferior appendages.

*Oecetis ornata* Kimmins, 1962

Figures 80–83, 126


**Diagnosis.** Forewing fork 1 in forewing sessile and wings mottled. In forewing, t1 more distal than t2 or t3; in male genitalia, inferior appendages broad and strongly ridged along their length, in lateral view with tips sharply down-turned and phallus in lateral view appearing as if it has a triangular fold subapically.

**Description.** Spurs 1, 2. Male forewing length 6.1–7.1 mm. Wings tapered apically; forewing fork 1 sessile, posterior anastomosis obliquely stepped, t1 more distal than other two crossveins. Male genitalia, Figs 77–79. Segment IX with apical margin excavated midventrally and midlaterally, preanal appendages, small, well separated, ovate. Segment X broad, membranous, in lateral view broad and down-curved, medial process club-shaped. Inferior appendages appear to be slender and strongly in-turned apically, but are actually broad and deeply ridge, in lateral view broad-based, tapered distally and down-turned apically. Phallus short, simple, down-turned, in lateral view always with a more or less triangular area dorsolaterally before apex.

**Distribution.** Eastern Australia, from eastern Vic. to southeastern Qld (Fig. 125).

**Etymology.** Latin, *aduncata* — bent inwards, for the shape of the inferior appendages.


**Diagnosis.** Forewing fork 2 sessile, posterior anastomosis obliquely stepped, t1 more distal than other two crossveins. Male genitalia, Figs 77–79. Segment IX with apical margin excavated midventrally and midlaterally, preanal appendages, small, well separated, ovate. Segment X broad, membranous, in lateral view broad and down-curved, medial process club-shaped. Inferior appendages appear to be slender and strongly in-turned apically, but are actually broad and deeply ridge, in lateral view broad-based, tapered distally and down-turned apically. Phallus short, simple, down-turned, in lateral view always with a more or less triangular area dorsolaterally before apex.

**Distribution.** Eastern Australia, from eastern Vic. to southeastern Qld (Fig. 125).

**Etymology.** Latin, *aduncata* — bent inwards, for the shape of the inferior appendages.

*Oecetis curta* Kimmins, 1962

Figures 80–83, 126


**Diagnosis.** Forewing fork 2 sessile, posterior anastomosis obliquely stepped, t1 more distal than other two crossveins. Male genitalia, Figs 77–79. Segment IX with apical margin excavated midventrally and midlaterally, preanal appendages, small, well separated, ovate. Segment X broad, membranous, in lateral view broad and down-curved, medial process club-shaped. Inferior appendages appear to be slender and strongly in-turned apically, but are actually broad and deeply ridge, in lateral view broad-based, tapered distally and down-turned apically. Phallus short, simple, down-turned, in lateral view always with a more or less triangular area dorsolaterally before apex.

**Distribution.** Eastern Australia, from eastern Vic. to southeastern Qld (Fig. 125).

**Etymology.** Latin, *aduncata* — bent inwards, for the shape of the inferior appendages.
Distribution. New Guinea and far northern Qld (Fig. 126).

Oecetis cepaforma sp. nov.

Figures 84–87, O. cepaforma sp. nov.: 84–86, male genitalia, ventral, dorsal and lateral views; 87, forewing.

Material examined. Holotype. Male, Qld, Erwin Falls on Eliot Creek, 100 km S of Bamaga, 7 Nov 1988, K. Walker (NMV T-18520) (slide).

Paratypes. NT: male, Radon Springs, 13–14 Apr 1989, Suter and Wells (NTM); 2 males, female, same locality and collectors, 14 May 1988 (NTM); 2 males, 1 female, same locality and collectors, 14 Apr 1989 (NTM); 1 male, 12°31’S 132°54’E, 9 km N by E of Mudginberri HS, 10–11 Jun 1973, J.C. Cardale (ANIC).

Other material. 35 samples in ANIC, NMV, NTM and QM.

Diagnosis. Forewing broad, length scarcely 3 times maximum width, spotted and moth-like, footstalk on fork 1 sessile. In male genitalia inferior appendages with length about 4 times width, a small spur on the baso-mesial angle; tergite X extended to an elongate-triangular apex, tipped with several short setae.
**Oecetis digitata** sp. nov.

**Species of the longiterga-group**

_**Oecetis digitata**_ sp. nov.

Diagnosis. Forewing length less than 4 times width, veins sclerotised, appear very prominent, footstalk absent on fork 1; an unusual forward bulge present at base of vein Cu1a. In male genitalia, inferior appendages with mesial margin irregular, not smoothly curved; phallus smoothly arched, length about 4 times width.

Description. Spurs 1, 2, 2. Male forewing length 6.1–6.4 mm. Wings strongly sclerotised with veins dark, hair short; in forewing (Fig. 91) fork 1 sessile, anterior anastomosis with t1 and t2 almost linear, and well distal of t3, a forwardly directed bulge on Cu1a. Male genitalia, Figs 92, 93. Segment IX almost of uniform length on all sides, but excavated deeply medially; preanal appendages slender, elongate. Segment X elongate in lateral view, slightly swollen towards base. Inferior appendages in ventral view with small inner lobe at about half length. Phallus, curved, slender with length about 4 times width.
**Oecetis ancala** sp. nov.

Figures 95–97, *O. ancala* sp. nov., male genitalia, ventral, dorsal and lateral views.

**Remarks.** Several of the New Guinean *Oecetis* species resemble *O. digitata* in having broad wings with bold or prominent venation, and may be allied to this species. However, none has Cu1a as in *O. digitata* and *O. ancala* sp. nov.

**Etymology.** Latin, *digitata* — having fingers, for the finger-like appearance of the male genitalia in lateral view.

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**Distribution.** Qld, NT, Kimberley Region of northern WA (Fig. 129).

**Material examined.** Holotype, male, SE Qld, Bulimba Creek, nr Brisbane Site R1, near Kimmax Street riffle, 23 Oct 1979 (NMV T-18523).

Other material. WA: male, N end of Lake Argyle nr Kununurra, 6 Feb 1977, M.S. and B. Moulds (NMV); 7 males, female, Geikie Gorge, 18°06'S 125°42'E, 5 Oct 1996, L. Edwards (NMV); NT: 2 males, 2 females, Nourlangie Creek, 6 km E of Mt Cahill, 12°52'S 132°46'E, 18 Nov 1972, J.C. Cardale (ANIC); male, Katherine River Gorge National Park, 13 Aug 1979, J. Blyth (NMV); male, 2 females, Adelaide River, 15 km E of Stuart Highway, 15 Aug 1979, J. Blyth (NMV); male, Devil Devil Creek, 70 km SW of Daly River Mission, 23 Aug 1979, J. Blyth (NMV); 2 males, 2 females, 12°52'S 132°46'E, Nourlangie Creek, 6 km E of Mt Cahill, 18 Nov 1972, J.C. Cardale (ANIC); male, ARRS, SAR at Gibbat OSS Site, 13°34.3'S 132°36.7'E, Wells and Suter, 25 May 1988 (NTM); 3 males, ARRS, Kambolgie Creek, 13°28.9'S 132°22.0'E, 25 May 1988, Wells and Suter (NTM); male, 12°36'S 132°53'E, ARRS, Gulungul Creek, Inlet to Gulungul Billabong, 20 Apr 1989, Wells and Suter (NTM); 2 males, SAR Site 1, 30 Sep 1988, P. Dostine (NTM); male, 3 females, 12°42'S 132°57'E, Kakadu National Park, Magela Creek, OSS Site 009, 15 Feb 1991, Wells (NTM); male, 12°42'S 132°57'E, Kakadu National Park, Magela Creek, OSS Site 009, 8 Jul 1991, Wells and Webber (NTM); Qld: male, Cape York Peninsula, Pascoe River crossing (to Iron Range), 4 Oct 2002, G. Theischinger (ANIC); Cape York Peninsula, Dulhunty River crossing at Telegraph rd, 7 Oct 2002, G. Theischinger (ANIC). NSW: Barrington Tops, Barrington Tops Country Retreat, Dam, 22 Dec 2000, A. Wells (ANIC); Vic: male, Tyers River, LRES, 24 Feb 1974, Site 22 (NMV) (slide); male, female, Yarra River, below Upper Yarra Dam, 28 Feb 1976, A. Neboiss (NMV); male, female, Yarra River, Diamond Creek junction, 14 Mar 1976, A. Neboiss (NMV).

**Diagnosis.** Forewing as for *O. digitata*. In male genitalia, paired, sharply angled, sclerotised processes ventral to tergite X, in ventral view appearing to be lateral to the phallus.

**Description.** Spurs 1, 2, 2. Male forewing length 7.9–9.4 mm. Wings, broad: forewing with fork 1 sessile, veins prominent; posterior anastomosis almost linear, oblique, marked by dark membrane forming a line across wing; Cu1a with a proximally directed bulge. Male genitalia, Figs 95–97. Segment IX, in ventral view, sharply angled inwards at about half their length (ankle-shaped), in lateral view broad-based, tapered and slender distally.

**Distribution.** Northern WA, northern NT, south-eastern Qld, eastern NSW and south-central Vic (Fig. 130).

**Remarks.** The homologies of the unusual lateral processes are obscure, being impossible to determine from the prepared slides. In lateral view they seem to be associated in some way with tergite X, although in ventral view they appear to be closely associated with the phallus. If they are derived from the phallotheca, then this species should probably be placed in the *complexa*-group in the Australian fauna, but for the present they are dealt with as part of the *laustra*-group. Only few specimens have been collected at any one time, which suggests that the species may be far more widespread, but not often collected. This is consistent with the very curious distribution.

**Etymology.** Latin, *anca*- — a bent arm, descriptive of the structures lateral to the phallus.

**Oecetis crosslandi** sp. nov.

**Figures 94, 98–100, 131.**

**Material examined.** Holotype male, Qld, Gunshot Creek at Telegraph Crossing, 11°44'S 142°29'E, 4–5 Apr 1992, M. Crossland (ANIC). Paratypes. 2 males, Qld: Heathlands, 11°45'S 142°35'E, T. Weir (ANIC).

**Diagnosis.** Forewing broad, length about 3 times width; fork 2 sessile and wing veins strongly pronounced, but without bulge in vein Cu1a. In male genitalia a single heavily sclerotised dorsal paramere with a group of teeth and spikes subapically.

**Description.** Wings broad, veins pronounced; forewing (Fig. 94) apex rounded, fork 1 sessile, Cu1a almost straight. Male forewing, 5.3 mm. In male genitalia (Figs 98–100), abdominal segment IX ventrally about 3 times middorsal length; preanal appendages elongate, length about 4 times width, apically rounded. Tergite X comprising a slender, elongate median lobe dorsal to a short rounded membranous plate. Inferior appendages broad-based, in ventral view sharply constricted on mesial margin, tapered to narrow apices, in lateral view with a short dorsal lobe. Phallus slender, downcurved in distal third, laterally on right, an elongate heavily sclerotised paramere with a subapical twist below a cluster of teeth and spikes.

**Distribution.** Northern Cape York, Qld (Fig. 131).

**Remarks.** One can only speculate on which features of *O. digitata*, *O. ancala* and *O. crosslandi* are homoplasious. I have assumed here, tentatively, that the synapomorphy for the group is the unusual form of the wing, which is shared by the New Guinean *O. longiterga* and at least one other New Guinean species (see Chen, 1992). However, *Oecetis longiterga* has a pair of internal parameres in the phallus, which feature could otherwise place it in the *O. pechana*-group; *O. ancala* and the New Guinean species of Chen’s unpublished work have paired external parameres, somewhat similar to the arrangement in the *O. complexa*-group species (Wells, 2000); and *O. digitata* has the phallus simple, without parameres, which is characteristic of the *O. laustra*-group.

**Etymology.** Named for Michael Crossland.

**Acknowledgements.**

My thanks to all who collected and provided specimens on which this study is based, and to the Museum Victoria and Museums and Art Galleries of the Northern Territory for making available the material in their collections. The Natural History Museum, London, through Dr R. Vane Wright, gave permission to reproduce figures from Mosely and Kimmins (1953). CSIRO Publishing is acknowledged for permission to use figures from the Australian Journal of Zoology and the Australian Journal of Marine and Freshwater Research. Museum Victoria is thanked for allowing use of figures from Memoirs of the National Museum of Victoria. CSIRO Entomology kindly provided laboratory facilities for this work.
Figures 101–115, distribution of species within Australia:
101, Oecetis laustra Mosely; 102, O. pseudolaustra sp. nov.; 103, O. atarpa Mosely; 104, O. scirpicula Neboiss; 105, O. inscripta Kimmins; 106, O. brevidentata sp. nov.; 107, O. asmanista Mosely; 108, O. minasata Mosely; 109, O. aeoloptera Kimmins; 110, O. multipunctata Ulmer; 111, O. cracenta sp. nov.; 112, O. parka Mosely; 113, O. arcada Mosely; 114, O. cymula Neboiss; 115, O. paracymula, sp. nov.
Australian caddis flies of the genus *Oecetis*

Figures 116–128, distribution of species within Australia:
My colleagues at the Australian Biological Resources Study are acknowledged for advice, particularly on handling of graphics, and for help in the use of the mapping programme, MapInfo, used to produce the maps. Brigitte Kuhlmayr’s graphics skill improved some of the scanned images of published figures.

References