

77. Family XENASTEIIDAE

By Neal L. Evenhuis

The family Xenasteiidae consists of minute milichiid-like flies (ca. 1.2 to 2.0 mm long) and occurs primarily on islands in the Indo-Pacific area from Aldabra and the Seychelles to Hawaii. The monotypic genus *Tunisimyia* Papp occurs only in Tunisia. Hardy (1980a) gave a complete account of all the Indo-Pacific species and placed the family near Asteiidae. However, D.K. McAlpine (*in litt.*) places it near Carnidae

and J.F. McAlpine (*in litt.*) places it near Anthomyzidae. The biology of these flies is largely unknown, although all species seem to inhabit the seashore. Papp (1984e) cataloged the Palearctic species and placed his *Tunisimyidae* as a junior synonym of this family.

Refs.: Hardy (1980a, key), Papp (1984e, cat. Palearctic spp.).

Genus XENASTEIA Hardy

XENASTEIA Hardy, 1980a: 211. Type species: *Xenasteia sabroskyi* Hardy, 1980, orig. des.
divergens Hardy, 1980a: 216. Guam; Belau, Micronesia, Northern Marianas.
palauensis Hardy, 1980a: 218. Belau; ?French Polynesia, Micronesia, ?Pitcairn Is.
sabroskyi Hardy, 1980a: 221. Hawaiian Is.