

88. Family SEPSIDAE

By Jan Zuska

The worldwide family Sepsidae contains some 250 described species of which 23 belong to the Australasian/Oceanian fauna. The genera *Lasionemopoda* and *Parapalaeosepsis* are endemic to the area covered by this catalog. *Toxopoda atrata* is endemic to Australia. The remaining species occur also in the Oriental Region and often elsewhere.

The wide distributions observed in many Australasian/Oceanian species are typical for the family as a whole and reflect the coprophagous habit of most Sepsidae. Some species have been spread over large territories in association with livestock.

Adult flies are found mostly on animal and human excrement (less often on other rotting or-

ganic matter) where eggs are laid and larvae develop, and on nearby vegetation, carrion, fermenting tree sap, and shrubs and herbs.

Many Sepsidae apparently play an important biological role as decomposers of animal excrement. Some species may have a limited hygienic importance because of their association with human feces.

Out of the 4 subfamilies recognized in the family, the Toxopodinae (including here only the genus *Toxopoda*) and Sepsinae occur in the Australasian/Oceanian Regions.

Refs.: Duda (1926a,b), Zuska (1968, 1970, 1972, keys, rev.), Colless (1980, Australian distrib.), Zuska & Colless (1984, key, rev. Australian spp.).

Subfamily SEPSINAE

Genus AUSTRALOSEPSIS Malloch

AUSTRALOSEPSIS Malloch, 1925h: 314. Type species: *Australosepsis fulvescens* Malloch, 1925 [= *Sepsis niveipennis* Becker, 1903], orig. des.

SALTELLISEPS Duda, 1926a: 25. Type species: *Sepsis niveipennis* Becker, 1903, des. Hennig, 1949: 63. **frontalis** Walker, 1860a: 163 (*Sepsis*). Indonesia (Sulawesi); Australia (NT, WA), New Caledonia (New Caledonia); Oriental Reg.

tenella de Meijere, 1906a: 183 (*Sepsis*). Singapore.

niveipennis Becker, 1903: 143 (*Sepsis*). Egypt; widesp. Australia (excl. Tas), Fiji, New Caledonia (New Caledonia), PNG (Bismarck Arch, PNG), Solomon Is, Vanuatu; Mediterranean area, Afrotrop., Oriental Regs.

atrata Malloch, 1925h: 315 (*fulvescens* var.). Australia (NSW).

fulvescens Malloch, 1925h: 314. Australia (NSW).

robusta Duda, 1926a: 31 (*Saltelliseps niveipennis* var.). Taiwan.

Genus DICRANOSEPSIS Duda

DICRANOSEPSIS Duda, 1926a: 43 (*Sepsis* subg.). Type species: *Sepsis bicolor* Wiedemann, 1830, orig. des.

bicolor Wiedemann, 1830a: 468 (*Sepsis*). China; Australia (NT, Qld), Guam, Indonesia (Irian Jaya, Maluku), PNG (Bismarck Arch, PNG), Solomon Is, Vanuatu; Oriental Reg.

revocans Walker, 1860a: 163 (*Sepsis*). Indonesia (Sulawesi).

bipilosa Duda, 1926a: 54 (*bicolor* var.). Taiwan & Singapore & India & "New Guinea."

Genus LASIONEMOPODA Duda

LASIONEMOPODA Duda, 1926a: 30. Type species: *Sepsis hirsuta* de Meijere, 1906, mon.

LASIONEMAPODA, error for *Lasionemopoda*.

hirsuta de Meijere, 1906a: 186 (*Sepsis*). Australia (NSW); widesp. Australia, Lord Howe I, NZ (NZ), Norfolk I.

Genus MEROPLIUS Rondani

MEROPLIUS Rondani, 1874: 175. Type species: *Nemopoda stercoraria* Robineau-Desvoidy, 1830 [= *Sepsis minuta* Wiedemann, 1830], orig. des.

PARAMEROPLIUS Duda, 1926a: 37 (*Meroplus* subg.). Type species: *Sepsis fasciculata* Brunetti, 1909, mon.

fasciculatus Brunetti, 1909: 365 (*Sepsis*). Sri Lanka; PNG (PNG); Oriental Reg.
plumata de Meijere, 1913b: 363 (*Sepsis*). PNG (PNG).

Genus PARAPALAEOSEPSIS Duda

PARAPALAEOSEPSIS Duda, 1926a: 42 (*Sepsis* subg.). Type species: *Sepsis plebeia* de Meijere, 1906, mon.

POECILOPTEROSEPSIS Duda, 1926a: 42 (*Sepsis* subg.). Type species: *Sepsis apicalis* de Meijere, 1906, des. Hennig, 1949: 61.

apicalis de Meijere, 1906a: 168 (*Sepsis*). PNG (PNG); Australia (Qld), Indonesia (Maluku), PNG (Bismarck Arch), Solomon Is.

basifera Walker, 1859a: 124 (*Sepsis*). Indonesia (Maluku); PNG (PNG).

compressa Zуска, 1970: 54. PNG (Bismarck Arch); Australia (NSW, Qld), PNG (PNG).
basifera, authors, not Walker, 1859, misid.

laffooni Steyskal, 1949: 168. Vanuatu; Australia (Qld), New Caledonia (New Caledonia), PNG (PNG).
noumeae Steyskal, 1949: 168 (*laffooni* ssp.). New Caledonia (New Caledonia).

limbata de Meijere, 1906a: 169 (*Sepsis*). PNG (PNG); Australia (Qld), ?Indonesia (Maluku), PNG (Bismarck Arch).

mesopla Steyskal, 1949: 169. PNG (PNG).

plebeia de Meijere, 1906a: 171 (*Sepsis*). Australia (NSW); widesp. Australia, Lord Howe I, PNG (Bismarck Arch, PNG), Solomon Is.

spatulata Zуска, 1970: 59. PNG (PNG); PNG (Bismarck Arch).

Genus SEPSIS Fallén

SEPSIS Fallén, 1810a: 17. Type species: *Musca cynipsea* Linnaeus, 1758, des. Curtis, 1829: 245.

THREX Gistel, 1848: x (unjust. n. n. for *Sepsis*).

biflexuosa Strobl, 1893b: 225. Austria & Hungary; Hawaiian Is; Nearctic, Palearctic Regs.

dissimilis Brunetti, 1909: 355. India; Australia (NSW, NT, Qld, WA), Lord Howe I, Norfolk I, PNG (PNG), Vanuatu; Afrotrop., Oriental Regs.

albopunctata Lamb, 1914: 323. Seychelles.

hirtifemur Malloch, 1925h: 314. Australia (NSW).

indica Wiedemann, 1824: 57. India; PNG (PNG); Oriental Reg.

decipiens de Meijere, 1906a: 177. PNG (PNG).

spectabilis de Meijere, 1906a: 178. Singapore & PNG (PNG).

lateralis Wiedemann, 1830a: 468. China; Hawaiian Is, ?PNG (PNG); Afrotrop., Oriental, Palearctic Regs.

nitens Wiedemann, 1824: 57. India; Australia (NSW, NT, Qld), PNG (PNG); Oriental Reg.

tuberculata Duda, 1926b: 64. Indonesia (Java) & Taiwan & Australia (Qld).

coprophila, Malloch, 1925, not de Meijere, 1906, misid.

thoracica Robineau-Desvoidy, 1830: 742 (*Micropeza*). Not given [?France]; Hawaiian Is; Afrotrop., Oriental, Palearctic Regs.

Genus XENOSEPSIS Malloch

XENOSEPSIS Malloch, 1925*h*: 315. Type species: *Xenosepsis sydneyensis* Malloch, 1925, orig. des.
PSEUDOMEROPLIUS Duda, 1926*a*: 25 (as gen.), 37 (*Meroplus* subg.). Type species: *Pseudomeroplus acrosticalis* Duda, 1926 [= *Xenosepsis sydneyensis* Malloch, 1925], subs. mon. Duda, 1926*b*: 11.
sydneyensis Malloch, 1925*h*: 315. Australia (NSW); Australia (Qld); Oriental Reg.
acrosticalis Duda, 1926*b*: 11 (*Pseudomeroplus*). Australia (Qld).

Subfamily TOXOPODINAE**Genus TOXOPODA Macquart**

TOXOPODA Macquart, 1851: 272(299). Type species: *Toxopoda nitida* Macquart, 1851, orig. des.
PODANEMA Malloch, 1928*d*: 308. Type species: *Podanema atrata* Malloch, 1928, orig. des.
atrata Malloch, 1928*d*: 308 (*Podanema*). Australia (Qld); Australia (NSW, Vic).
nitida Macquart – not Australasian/Oceanian.
shinonagai Iwasa, 1986: 659. PNG (PNG).
viduata Thomson, 1869: 586 (*Sepsis*). Hong Kong; ?PNG (PNG).