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Check List of the Palpicornia of Oceania
(Coleoptera, Polyphaga)

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INTRODUCTION

Palpicornia of Oceania, as summarized in my paper of 1933 (17)¹, are very few in number. To my knowledge there are but seven species recorded as endemic to the Oceanic islands, a scarcity which may be explained by several circumstances. Many islands are of coral or very recent volcanic origin. Consequently they have been submitted to colonization for a relatively short period and the occasional immigrant stock has not had sufficient time to evolve into separate genera or species. Furthermore, insular faunas are generally poor due to their isolation; this must be especially true for the remote Oceanic islands which must have been colonized with difficulty from elsewhere. That ancient Moorea and Tahiti, for instance, so greatly changed through long geological ages and with such varied topography, should be so poor in Palpicornia seems surprising and not to be explained solely by lack of specialized explorations. Insular faunas may be poor not only in species but also in individuals. In this connection, Krone's (12, p. 153) comments on the fauna of the sub-antarctic Auckland Islands, which I translate freely, may be called to mind: ". . . but, with the exception of troublesome sandflies and great blue horseflies which occur by millions near the seashore,

¹ Numbers in parentheses refer to Literature Cited, p. 13.

how barren the insect-world appears! Only by tiresome and experienced researches, during the period from October to February, does one succeed in finding a beetle now and then. . . .”

However, very few Oceanic islands have been methodically explored for Palpicornia. These insects live in the most varied conditions: in mountain streams under stones; in trickling water on vertical rocks; in lakes and ponds; in slow running water between water plants; in mud on banks of waters; in accumulations of water at the bases of leaves; in wet mosses and in hepatics near streams or waterfalls; in rotten wood, fruits, or refuse; in wet tree-wounds; in dung of indigenous animals; in guano; under dead bodies of birds and other animals; between fallen and wet leaves in humid, endemic forests; on sea coasts in small or very small salt rock-pools near the high-tide line; and even (as *Rygmodus* and *Saphydrus* in New Zealand) upon flowers and shrubs. Conclusions as to the poverty in Palpicornia of an island cannot be drawn until all these habitats have been thoroughly investigated.

I have mentioned all these particulars as to habitat and patient collection, in the hope that entomologists, visiting Oceanic islands, will devote some of their time in the future to the much neglected group here considered.

OCEANIC SPECIES OF PALPICORNIA

Table 1. Oceanic Hydrophilid Fauna²

SPECIES	CAROLINE ISLANDS (PONAPE)	MARSHALL ISLANDS	GILBERT ISLANDS (NAURU)	FIJI INCLUDING VATU LEILE	SAMOA	TOKELAU ISLANDS (ATAFU)	TAHITI	HAWAII
Hydraenidae								
Hydraeninae								
Ochthebius (Asiobates) eremita Knisch				*				
Hydrophilidae (s. str.)								
Sphaeridiinae								
Coelostoma fabriciusi (Montrouzier) (Cyclonotum extraneum Sharp)								×
? species Kolbe ³		×						
? species Kolbe ³		×						
Dactylosternum abdominale (Fabricius)			×		×			×
Dactylosternum subquadratum (Fairmaire) (titanicum Knisch)				×	×		×	×
Dactylosternum superficiale Knisch	*							
New endemic genus near Dactylosternum				*				
Cercyon quisquilius (Linné) ⁴								×
Omicrus brevipipes Sharp								*
Noteropagus politus A. d'Orchymont					×			
Cryptopleurum minutum (Fabricius) ⁴								×
Hydrophilinae								
Limnoxenus nesiticus (Sharp)								*
Limnoxenus semicylindricus (Eschscholtz)								*
Helochares (Hydrobaticus) simulator Knisch				×		×		
Helochares (s. str.) pallens (MacLeay) ⁵								
Enochrus (Lumetus) bryani A. d'Orchymont					*			
Enochrus (Lumetus) pygmaeus (Fabricius) [Enochrus nebulosus (Say)] ⁶								×
Enochrus (Lumetus) ?tritus (Broun)					×			
Enochrus (Lumetus) sp. ⁷					×		×	
Enochrus (Methydrus) parvulus (Kuwert)					×			
Sternolophus (Neosternolophus) artensis (Montrouzier) ⁸				×				
Hydrous (s. str.) gayndahensis (MacLeay) (Hydrophilus sabellifer Fairmaire)				×				

² Species are listed in tables systematically for genera and subgenera, alphabetically for species. Endemic genera and species are noted with asterisks.

³ Schnee (19, p. 391) gives *Cyclonotum* 2 spp. (Kolbe det.) as belonging to the subfamily Sphaeridiinae but no particulars to test the exactitude of the generic attribution.

⁴ First recorded as a recent European immigrant in Hawaiian Ent. Soc., Proc., 4: 607, 1921. I have not seen specimens.

⁵ "Nord de l'Océanie" under *minutissimus*, according to Régimbart (18, p. 54). I am not acquainted with the species in Oceania.

⁶ First recorded as a recent American immigrant in Hawaiian Ent. Soc., Proc., 8: 16, 1932 and 9: 268, 1936. I have not seen specimens.

⁷ The species designated as *Philhydrus melanocephalus* (Fabricius) from Tahiti in Fairmaire (5, p. 411) cannot belong to that palearctic species. For that reason I have mentioned only "sp."

⁸ According to Fauvel (6, p. 352; 7, p. 352), but the determination must be tested.

LIST OF SPECIES

FAMILY HYDRAENIDAE

HYDRAENINAE

- Ochthebius (Asiobates) eremita* Knisch*, *Archiv Naturg.*, 88 A (5) : 87, 1922.
Fiji.

FAMILY HYDROPHILIDAE (S. STR.)

SPHAERIDIINAE

- Coelostoma fabriciusi* (Montrouzier).
Ochthebius Fabricii Montrouzier, *Soc. Ent. France, Ann.*, III, 8: 245, 1860.
?Cyclonotum mastersi MacLeay, *Ent. Soc. N. S. Wales, Trans.*, II, 2: 133, 1871.
?Cyclonotum australe Blackburn, *Linn. Soc. N. S. Wales, Proc.*, II, 3: 839, 1888.
Cyclonotum extraneum Sharp, *Fauna Hawaiiensis*, 3: 579, 1908.
Hawaiian islands: Oahu, ? Kauai (Sharp). New Caledonia. Australia.
- Dactylosternum abdominale* (Fabricius).
Sphaeridium abdominale Fabricius, *Ent. Syst.*, 1: 79, 1792.
Coelostoma insulare Castelnau, *Hist. nat. Anim. artic.*, 2: 59, 1840.
Cyclonotum nitidum Boheman (non Cast., 1840), *Ins. Caffr.*, 1: 602, 1851.
Dactylosternum rousseti Wollaston, *Ins. Mad.*, 100, pl. 3, fig. 1, 1854.
Dactylosternum natalense Gemminger and Harold, *Cat. Col.*, 2: 495 (nom. in cat.), 1868.
Cyclonotum mulsanti Murray, *Ann. Mag. Nat. Hist.*, III, 4: 352, 1859.
Hydrobius semistriatus Schaufuss, *Hor. Soc. Ent. Ross.*, 21: 108, 1887.
Dactylosternum var. *foveonitidum* Kuwert, *Verh. Nat. Ver. Brünn.*, 28: 179, 1890.
Dactylosternum depressum Régimbart (non Klug, 1833), *Soc. Ent. France, Ann.*, 72: 46, 1903.
Nauru Island (Froggatt). Samoa (A. d'Orchymont). Hawaiian islands (Sharp). Warmer regions of the world except New Zealand.
- Dactylosternum subquadratum* (Fairmaire).
Cyclonotum subquadratum Fairmaire, *Rev. Mag. Zool.*, II, 1: 412, 1849.
Dactylosternum seriatum titanicum Knisch, *Archiv Naturg.*, 88 A (10) : 151, 1922.
Fiji. Samoa (Knisch, A. d'Orchymont). Tahiti (Fairmaire). Hawaiian islands (Sharp). Buru Island. Borneo. Philippines.
- Dactylosternum superficiale* Knisch*, *Treubia*, 6: 199, 1925.
Caroline Islands: Ponape.
- Cercyon quisquilius* (Linné).
Scarabaeus quisquilius Linné, *Fauna Suecica*, 138, 1761.
Hawaiian islands, immigrant. Palaearctic regions; spread from there to America and even Australia (Blackburn).
- Omicrus brevipes* Sharp*, *Ent. Soc. London, Trans.*, 82, 1879.
Hawaiian Islands: Oahu, in rotten wood.

- Noteropagus politus** A. d'Orchymont, Soc. Ent. France, Ann., **88**: 134, 1919.
Samoa (A. d'Orchymont). Mentawai Island. Engano Island. Java.
- Cryptopleurum minutum** (Fabricius).
Sphaeridium minutum Fabricius, Syst. Ent., 68, 1775.
Hawaiian islands, immigrant. Palaeartic regions; spread from there to America (especially eastern United States).

HYDROPHILINAE

- Limnoxenus nesiticus** (Sharp)*.
Hydrobius nesiticus Sharp, Fauna Hawaiiensis, 3: 578, 1908.
Hawaiian islands: Oahu.
- Limnoxenus semicylindricus** (Eschscholtz)*.
Hydrophilus semicylindricus Eschscholtz, Entomographien, 1: 42, 1822.
Hawaiian islands (Sharp).
- Helochares (Hydrobaticus) simulator** Knisch*, Archiv Naturg., **88 A** (5): 174, 1922.
Duke of York Island. Fiji: Vatu Leile.
- Helochares (s. str.) pallens** (MacLeay).
Enhydrus pallens MacLeay, Annul. Javan., 35, 1825.
Helochares minutissimus Régimbart (non Kuwert), Soc. Ent. France, Ann., **72**: 54, 335, 1903.
Helochares dispar Sharp, Res. Swed. Zool. Exped. Egypt. White Nile, **10**: 7, 1903.
"Nord de l'Océanie" (Régimbart). Warmer regions of Asia, Sumatra, Africa, Madagascar.
- Enochrus (Lumetus) bryani** A. d'Orchymont*, Insects of Samoa, (4): 33, fig. 1, 1927.
Samoa: Savaii.
- Enochrus (Lumetus) pygmaeus** (Fabricius) A. d'Orchymont, Soc. Ent. Belg., Bull. Ann. **73**: 307, 1933 (synonymy of *nebulosus*).
Hydrophilus pygmaeus Fabricius, Ent. Syst., **1**: 186, 1792.
Hydrophilus nebulosus Say, Long's Exped., **2**: 277, 1824.
Hawaiian islands, immigrant from North America.
- Enochrus (Lumetus) ? tritus** (Broun).
Philhydrus tritus Broun, Man. New Zealand Col., **1**: 78, 1880.
Philhydrus variolorum Broun, Man. New Zealand Col., **1**: 79, 1880.
Samoa: Upolu (A. d'Orchymont). New Zealand: North and South Islands. Kermadec: Sunday Island (Broun).
- Enochrus (Methydrus) parvulus** (Kuwert).
Philhydrus (Agraphilydrus) parvulus Kuwert, Verh. Nat. Ver. Brünn., **23**: 56, (1889) 1890.
Enochrus (Lumetus) escuriens Knisch (non Walker), Archiv Naturg., **88A** (10): 151, 1922.
Samoa: Upolu. Syria (Kuwert). Egypt. Tropical Africa including Transvaal. Madagascar. Seychelles. Aldabra. Coetivy Island. India.

Sternolophus (Neosternolophus) artensis (Montrouzier).

Hydrobius artensis Montrouzier, Soc. Ent. France, Ann., III, 3: 247, 1860.
Fiji (Fauvel). New Caledonia (Fauvel): Art (Montrouzier), Isle of
Pines (Fleutiaux). ? Australia.

Hydrous (s. str.) **gayndahensis** (MacLeay).

Hydrophilus gayndahensis MacLeay, Ent. Soc. N. S. Wales, Trans., 2:
129, 1871.
Hydrophilus sabelliferus (recte *sabellifer*) Fairmaire, Mus., Godeffr.,
Jour., 14: 80, 1878.
Fiji: Viti Levu (Fairmaire). Queensland.

The following Oceanic regions were not included in the lists of Oceanic species:

1. New Britain (Neu Pommern) belonging with New Guinea to the Papuan fauna.
2. New Caledonia belonging to the Australian fauna.
3. The Kermadec Islands [one species known: *Enochrus (Lumetus) tritus* (Broun)], Chatham and Steward Island (no species known); belong with New Zealand, Auckland Islands, and Bounty Island to the antarctic or sub-antarctic fauna.
4. Easter Island (no Palpicornia known).
5. The Galapagos Islands belonging to the neotropic fauna [species known: *Ochthebius batesoni* Blair*, *Galapagodaemum darwini* (Blair*), *Enochrus (Lumetus) waterhousei* Blair* and *obscurus* (Sharp), *Tropisternus (Pristoternus) lateralis* (Fabricius)].

However, it is instructive to compare the Oceanic species with those of Papua and New Caledonia, as well as with the more southern antarctic or sub-antarctic faunas in New Zealand, the Kermadec Islands, and other still more southern islands. The four following tables are therefore given.

Table 2. Papuan Palpicornia

SPECIES	NEW GUINEA	NEW BRITAIN (NEU POMMERN)
Hydrophilidae (s. str.)		
Sphaeridiinae		
Coelostoma afflatum Knisch.....	*	
Coelostoma fabriciusi (Montrouzier) (orbiculare Heller).....	×	
Dactylosternum abdominale (Fabricius).....	×	
Dactylosternum dytiscoides (Fabricius).....	×	
Sphaeridium flavomaculatum A. d'Orchymont.....	*	
Cercyon afflatus Knisch.....		*
Cercyon cognatus Knisch.....		*
Cercyon papuensis A. d'Orchymont.....	*	
Pelosoma eremita Knisch.....		*
Hydrophilinae		
Helochares (Hydrobaticus) expansus Knisch.....	*	
Helochares (s. str.) taprobanicus Sharp (atropiceus Régimbart)	×	
Sternolophus (Neosternolophus) tenebricosus Blackburn.....	×	
Hydrous (s. str.) gebieni Knisch.....	*	
Hydrous (s. str.) loriai (Régimbart).....	*	
Amphiops duplopunctatus Blackburn.....	×	
Globalia bedeli (Kraatz).....	*	

