

Invertebrates of the Royal National Park

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Introduction

The habitats of the Royal National Park (RNP) range from rainforest to coastal heath and freshwater to marine. Invertebrates are ubiquitous in each of these habitats, but their diversity is often not appreciated. Any attempt at listing the invertebrate fauna of an area will be incomplete, even for a small and relatively homogeneous environment; to attempt such a feat for a diverse area such as the RNP would therefore only scratch the surface. Here we sidestep this problem by focussing on taxa for which the RNP is a type locality—either for the primary or a secondary type. These invertebrate species described from RNP represent a tiny part of the diversity present in the park. However, they do give an insight into the taxonomic activity associated with the park over more than a century. The species listed here should be recognised as parts of wider taxonomic studies that have contributed to our knowledge of regional invertebrate diversity and ecology.

Methods and scope

The type data lists are compiled from the databases of the three major mainland museums in eastern Australia: Australian Museum, Sydney (AM); Museum of Victoria, Melbourne (MV); and Queensland Museum, Brisbane (QM). For various reasons, especially the absence of digitised data (e.g., ANIC) and material in overseas institutions, it was not feasible to assemble a verifiably complete type list, or a species records list.

We requested data for a rectangular area bounded by 34°02'30"S to 34°18'00"S and 150°56'00"E to 151°11'00"E (the whole area of the map in Fig. 1, including marine areas). A GIS mapping algorithm was used to filter the data and make a second list of only records from within the park boundary. Type records were separated from both lists, and area type records were then further screened to remove those from non-contiguous localities from the north side of Port Hacking (e.g. Gunnamatta Beach, Cronulla). All records were then classified as a primary type (cotype, holotype, syntype, type) or a secondary type (allotype, paratype).

The AM full area list was also used to make a provisional species count per invertebrate group. It should be noted that many factors will combine to make this a gross underestimate. We consider some of the known effects of limitations of our data set in the discussion.

Results: Summary data

Table 1 summarises the number of type specimens from the RNP; from the wider area from Port Hacking to Stanwell Park; and the total named species count in the full AM data.

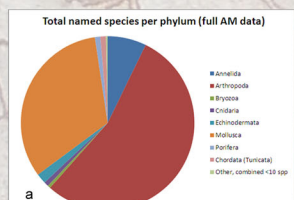


Figure 1. Map showing Royal National Park and surrounding area used in this study. Source: ©Google - Map data ©2011 Google, Whereis(R), Sensus Pty Ltd.

	Types from RNP only (AM, MV, QM)	Types from land area S of Port Hacking + marine (AM, MV, QM)	Total data (no records removed, AM only)
Named species	92 (44 primary types)	168 (91 primary types)	2370
Genera	69	131	1454
Families	53	94	578
Classes	5	13	40
Phyla	2	6	13

Table 1. The number of species and higher taxonomic ranks in different sections of the data.

Within phyla, the arthropods are the dominant group represented, followed by Mollusca and Annelida. This is true for both the total species recorded (Fig. 2a) and the types (Fig. 2b), but in the types the proportion of Arthropoda is much larger (89%, c.f. 54%).

Within the arthropod types, Diptera (Flies) are the main group (45%), with Araneae (Spiders) and Lepidoptera (moths) equal second, followed by Coleoptera (beetles) and Hymenoptera (wasps, bees and ants) (Fig. 2c).

A full list of species with types from the park and surrounding area is given in Table 2.

Figure 2. Numbers of species from the RNP and surrounding area: a. All named species, from raw AM data of entire area; b. Species described from the RNP and contiguous area, per phylum; c. Breakdown of arthropod species from b, by sub-phylum or Class.

Discussion

To a great extent, the type list reflects the strengths of scientists working at the Australian Museum. This is not only the species directly described by these researchers and their collaborators, but also work by other parties, facilitated by the local knowledge and a well sorted collection.

There are three major sources of omissions in the completeness of our lists. From the overall species count we are missing taxa for which there have been no major revisionary works, or for which the specimens are unsorted, only partially identified, or not databased. From the types the main omissions are the type specimens held in other institutions, such as older types in overseas museums and types held in the Australian National Insect Collection in Canberra (ANIC), which is incompletely databased.

We can illustrate the extent of one part of this missing data with a case study of flies in the family Drosophilidae using research data supplied by Dr Shane McEvey of the Australian Museum. Of 49 species recorded from the Park and surrounding area, only five (the AM types) are included in our data. Cataloguing is an ongoing process, and the main Drosophilidae collections of the Australian Museum are still waiting to be databased. In general, type lists are more reliable because types are the focus of databasing efforts at most institutions. The AM holds types of five Drosophilidae species; nevertheless, we find that another seven species, held by institutions we have not accessed, are missing from our types list (Table 3). This rather woeful result is probably most pronounced for insects—where we know we are missing the significant type holdings of ANIC—however, other groups may also have significant omissions.

The data we have gathered, combined with some understanding of the shortfalls, gives a glimpse of the immense diversity of invertebrates present in the environs of the RNP. We hope these figures and examples of some interesting taxa will bring more awareness of the importance and diversity of these often overlooked animals. The considerable research interest in the area also indicates the importance of the park habitats in the eyes of scientists and the necessity for continuing support for conservation of this diverse area.

Acknowledgments. We thank: Michael Elliott (AM) for numerous iterations of database searches and the GIS mapping algorithm to separate out Park records; Collections staff at AM, ANIC, MV and QM, who provided their data and advice; Shane McEvey (AM), for Drosophilidae data; all the suppliers of wonderful photos, who are credited by their works; a number of authors who assisted with original reprints and information.

Table 2. Species for which the primary or secondary type is from the Royal National Park or surrounding area

Annelida: Hirudinea	
Piscicolidae: <i>Austrobdella transiens</i> Batham, 1916 PT A	
Annelida: Polychaeta	
Omphalidae: <i>Hirsutiophis armillata</i> Paxton, 1966 PT A	
Pectinariidae: <i>Amphiclene uniloba</i> Hutchings & Peart, 2002 HT,PT A	
Syllidae: <i>Murindisyllis koomundroola</i> San Martin et al., 2007 HT,PT A	
Trichobranchidae: <i>Trichobranchus bunnabus</i> Hutchings & Peart, 2000 PT A	
Arthropoda: Arachnida: Acarina	
Arrenuridae: <i>Arrenurus pseudomargaritatus</i> Smit, 2010 PT P	
Arthropoda: Arachnida: Araneae	
Araneidae: <i>Arkye bulbosus</i> Heimer, 1984 HT P	
Araneidae: <i>Arkye speechleyi</i> (Mascord, 1968) HT,PT P	
Araneidae: <i>Polys nobilis</i> Smith, 2006 FT P	
Galleriellidae: <i>Meedo bluff</i> Platnick, 2002 HT P	
Hemilidae: <i>Tampopsis brisbanensis</i> Baehr & Baehr, 1987 PT P	
Hexatheidae: <i>Parasemides grayi</i> Raven, 1978 HT,PT P A	
Micropodidae: <i>Elerosonychia complexa</i> (Forster, 1959) HT P	
Nemesiidae: <i>Stamwellia hoggi</i> (Rainbow, 1914) Type A	
Salicidae: <i>Helios kenilworthi</i> Zabala, 2002 PT P	
Stiphidiidae: <i>Jamboreo johnnoblei</i> Gray & Smith, 2008 PT P	
Theridiidae: <i>Argyrodus incurvus</i> Gray & Anderson, 1988 PT P	
Zodariidae: <i>Asteron zakaki</i> Jocque & Baehr, 2001 HT,PT P	
Zodariidae: <i>Habronestes grahami</i> Baehr, 2003 PT P	
Zodariidae: <i>Habronestes hunti</i> Baehr, 2003 PT A	
Arthropoda: Arachnida: Opiliones	
Triaenonychidae: <i>Equilium hirsutum</i> Huxley, 1885 HT,PT P	
Arthropoda: Insecta: Coleoptera	
Alleculidae: <i>Hybria nitidior</i> Carter, 1915 PT A	
Buprestidae: <i>Castiarina pulla</i> (Barker, 1886) PT P	
Carabidae: <i>Austranillus macleayi</i> (Lacaze, 1869) Type A	
Cerambycidae: <i>Ateles longelytrata</i> Wang, 1993 HT P	
Cerambycidae: <i>Strongylus musgravi</i> (McKeown, 1940) HT A	
Cerambycidae: <i>Syllistinus abnerus</i> McKeown, 1938 PT P	
Cerambycidae: <i>Wahn zonulif</i> McKeown, 1940 PT A	
Chrysomelidae: <i>Menippus darcyi</i> Reid & Nally, 2008 HT,PT A	
Clendidae: <i>Apterygus rufus</i> Bartlett, 2009 PT P	
Dytiscidae: <i>Platynectes laurinus</i> Watts, 1978 PT P	
Nitidulidae: <i>Pocadius expectatus</i> Kirejtshuk PT A	
Staphylinidae: <i>Polylobus longulus</i> Olfitt, 1886* Type P	
Arthropoda: Insecta: Diptera	
Agromyzidae: <i>Cerodontha (Cerodontha) delectabilis</i> Spencer, 1977 HT,PT A	
Agromyzidae: <i>Cerodontha poeyimiza</i> (Spencer, 1963) HT A	
Agromyzidae: <i>Cerodontha triplicata</i> (Spencer, 1963) PT P	
Agromyzidae: <i>Lirionyx australis</i> Spencer, 1962 PT A	
Agromyzidae: <i>Melanogrammyza seneciophila</i> Spencer, 1963 PT P	
Agromyzidae: <i>Ophiomyia ofortensis</i> Spencer, 1977 HT,PT A	
Agromyzidae: <i>Phytomyza australiensis</i> Spencer, 1963 HT P	
Agromyzidae: <i>Pseudogrammyza parvis</i> Spencer, 1977 HT,PT A	
Bombyliidae: <i>Anthrax dolabratus</i> Yeates & Lambkin, 1998 PT A	
Clusiidae: <i>Clusiodes gladiator</i> McAlpine, 1960 HT,PT P A	
Clusiidae: <i>Heteromeria latensis</i> McAlpine, 1960 HT,PT P A	
Clusiidae: <i>Heteromeria pulla</i> McAlpine, 1960* HT,PT P A	
Clusiidae: <i>Heteromeria spinulosa</i> McAlpine, 1960 PT A	
Clusiidae: <i>Tetrameria subulata</i> McAlpine, 1960 PT P	
Dolichopodidae: <i>Austroscladius janae</i> Bickel, 1964 PT P	
Dolichopodidae: <i>Austroscladius ofortensis</i> Bickel, 1964 HT P	
Dolichopodidae: <i>Symptopus taenionis</i> Bickel, 2000 HT,PT P	
Drosophilidae: <i>Dichaetophora maculipes</i> (Bock, 1962) PT A	
Drosophilidae: <i>Drosophila teratos</i> Bock, 1962 HT P	
Drosophilidae: <i>Leucophaea lubrica</i> Bock, 1979 PT P	
Drosophilidae: <i>Leucophaea pallidella</i> Bock, 1979 HT A	
Drosophilidae: <i>Leucophaea barkeri</i> (Bock, 1978) HT A	
Empididae: <i>Ceratomerus maculatus</i> Sinclair, 2003 PT P	
Empididae: <i>Ceratomerus orientalis</i> Sinclair, 2003 HT P	
Empididae: <i>Cincocera australis</i> Sinclair, 2000 PT P A	
Empididae: <i>Cincocera rubriventris</i> Sinclair, 2000 PT P	
Fanniidae: <i>Australofania spiniculus</i> Pont, 1977 PT P	
Heleomyzidae: <i>Austrolophus extensus</i> McAlpine, 1967 HT,PT P A	
Heleomyzidae: <i>Diplogomyza annulata</i> McAlpine, 1967 HT,PT P A	
Heleomyzidae: <i>Diplogomyza maculipennis</i> Malloch, 1926 HT P	
Heleomyzidae: <i>Diplogomyza media</i> McAlpine, 1967 PT P	
Heleomyzidae: <i>Diplogomyza spinulosa</i> McAlpine, 1967 PT P	
Heleomyzidae: <i>Diplogomyza signata</i> McAlpine, 1967 PT P A	
Heleomyzidae: <i>Pentacheta phypus</i> McAlpine, 1965 PT P A	
Heleomyzidae: <i>Tapeigaster digitata</i> McAlpine & Kent, 1962 PT P A	
Heleomyzidae: <i>Tapeigaster pulvereus</i> McAlpine & Kent, 1962 HT,PT P	
Lonchaeidae: <i>Silba adelosa</i> McAlpine, J. F., 1964 PT A	
Lonchaeidae: <i>Cyrtosia stela</i> Klieke, 1984 PT A	
Pipunculidae: <i>Clistobdromia conyostylus</i> Skevington, 2001 PT P	
Pipunculidae: <i>Eudorylas anfractus</i> Skevington, 2003 PT P	
Pipunculidae: <i>Duomyia brevicornis</i> McAlpine, 1972 HT P	
Platystomatidae: <i>Duomyia scintilla</i> McAlpine, 1972 PT P	
Platystomatidae: <i>Euprosopia megalisigma</i> McAlpine, 1973 HT,PT A	
Platystomatidae: <i>Euprosopia subulata</i> McAlpine, 1973 HT,PT A	
Platystomatidae: <i>Lemphila adactyla</i> McAlpine & Kim, 1977 HT,PT P	
Platystomatidae: <i>Lemphila danielsi</i> McAlpine & Kim, 1977 HT,PT P A	
Psychodidae: <i>Pericoma alipes</i> Tonnoir, 1963 PT A	
Sphaeroceridae: <i>Leptocera aestivata</i> Richards, 1973 PT A	
Sphaeroceridae: <i>Leptocera ocellata</i> Richards, 1973 HT A	
Sphaeroceridae: <i>Leptocera dorringtoni</i> Richards, 1973 PT P A	
Sphaeroceridae: <i>Leptocera fenestrata</i> Richards, 1973 PT A	
Sphaeroceridae: <i>Leptocera niliparva</i> Richards, 1973 PT P	
Sphaeroceridae: <i>Leptocera popularia</i> Richards, 1973 HT,PT P	
Sphaeroceridae: <i>Leptocera subsinuata</i> Richards, 1973 PT P A	
Sphaeroceridae: <i>Leptocera invitata</i> Richards, 1973 HT P	
Tabanidae: <i>Cyclistomyia infirma</i> Mackerras & Speers, 2008 HT A	
Tachinidae: <i>Carcelia flavivitta</i> Cartmel, 1984 PT P	
Tephritidae: <i>Microneurina setosa</i> Perkmam & Hancock, 1996 HT,PT P	
Thaumaleidae: <i>Austrothaumalea barydyti</i> Theischinger, 1996 HT P	
Thaumaleidae: <i>Austrothaumalea maculipes</i> Theischinger, 1996 HT P A	
Thaumaleidae: <i>Austrothaumalea ramosa</i> Sinclair, 2008 PT P	
Thaumaleidae: <i>Austrothaumalea ulocla</i> Sinclair, 2008 HT,PT P	
Therevidae: <i>Anabarhynchus lineatus</i> Lyneborg, 2001 PT P	
Therevidae: <i>Anabarhynchus malpini</i> Lyneborg, 2001 PT P	
Therevidae: <i>Anabarhynchus plumbeus</i> Lyneborg, 2001 PT P	
Therevidae: <i>Anabarhynchus stylatus</i> Lyneborg, 2001 PT P	
Arthropoda: Insecta: Hemiptera	
Achilidae: <i>Anepe minerva</i> Lambkin, 1978 HT P	
Aradidae: <i>Clononemus meridionalis</i> Monteth, 1997 PT A	
Aradidae: <i>Neurosternus australis</i> Lyneborg, 2001 PT P	
Cicadellidae: <i>Eularlessus whitemansi</i> F. Evans, 1981 HT P	
Pentatomidae: <i>Paradicolpus fuscus</i> Gross, 1975 PT P	
Reduviidae: <i>Ploaria obscura</i> Wygodzinsky, 1966 HT A	
Rhypanochoridae: <i>Chalcidius mytilus</i> Woodward, 1965 HT,PT P	
Arthropoda: Insecta: Hymenoptera	
Colletidae: <i>Leipoproctus (Filoglossa) hamatus</i> Maynard, 1994 HT P	
Farmaciidae: <i>Rhytidoponera confusa</i> Richards, 1980 PT P	
Farmaciidae: <i>Rhytidoponera enigmatica</i> Ward, 1980 PT P	
Geometridae: <i>Thallogamia corticola</i> (Goldfinch, 1944) Type A	
Hepialidae: <i>Fraus orientalis</i> Nielsen & Kristensen, 1989 PT P	
Hepialidae: <i>Hesperilla mastalis</i> Waterhouse, 1930 Type A	
Ichneumonidae: <i>Castisaria hesperophaga</i> Jerman & Gauld, 1989 PT A	
Ichneumonidae: <i>Certonon andrewi</i> Gauld & Holloway, 1986 HT A	
Ichneumonidae: <i>Paraphylax conrax</i> Gauld, 1984 PT A	
Ichneumonidae: <i>Zaglyptus hollowayi</i> Gauld, 1984 HT P	
Ichneumonidae: <i>Perigada clarensis</i> Benson, 1935 HT P	
Arthropoda: Insecta: Lepidoptera	
Cosmopterigidae: <i>Hopliphanes aeneodes</i> Lower* HT P	
Geometridae: <i>Aeolochroma olivina</i> (Goldfinch, 1943) HT P	
Geometridae: <i>Thallogamia corticola</i> (Goldfinch, 1944) Type A	
Hepialidae: <i>Fraus orientalis</i> Nielsen & Kristensen, 1989 PT P	
Hepialidae: <i>Hesperilla mastalis</i> Waterhouse, 1930 Type A	
Ichneumonidae: <i>Castisaria hesperophaga</i> Jerman & Gauld, 1989 PT A	
Ichneumonidae: <i>Certonon andrewi</i> Gauld & Holloway, 1986 HT A	
Ichneumonidae: <i>Paraphylax conrax</i> Gauld, 1984 PT A	
Ichneumonidae: <i>Zaglyptus hollowayi</i> Gauld, 1984 HT P	
Ichneumonidae: <i>Perigada clarensis</i> Benson, 1935 HT P	
Arthropoda: Insecta: Neuroptera	
Berolidae: <i>Spermophora dissimulata</i> Tilyard, 1916 Type A	
Arthropoda: Insecta: Orthoptera	
Acrididae: <i>Minyacris nanum</i> (Stålstedt, 1921) HT A	
Phalangopidae: <i>Zacholothra oligoneura</i> (Chopard, 1951) PT P	
Tridacidae: <i>Denticolpa albopunctata</i> Günther, 1978 HT,PT P A	
Arthropoda: Insecta: Plecoptera	
Gripopterygidae: <i>Dinotoperia dolichopoda</i> Theischinger, 1982 PT P	
Notonemouridae: <i>Kimminisoperia malpini</i> Theischinger, 1981 PT P	
Arthropoda: Insecta: Psocoptera	
Amphispocidae: <i>Taeniosigma trickettae</i> Smithers, 1974 PT P A	
Caeciliidae: <i>Aphysopterus prolixus</i> Smithers, 1962 PT P	
Lepidopsocidae: <i>Echinopsylla brunnea</i> Smithers, 1965 PT P	
Myoposocidae: <i>Myoposocus incomptus</i> Smithers, 1964 HT,PT P	
Philotaridae: <i>Philotaros lemsida</i> (Thornton & New, 1977) PT A	
Pseudococcidae: <i>Austrosocus omega</i> Thornton & New, 1977 PT P	
Pseudococcidae: <i>Austrosocus omega</i> Thornton & New, 1977 PT P	
Arthropoda: Insecta: Trichoptera	
Hydrobiosidae: <i>Austrochorena inornatum</i> Schmid, 1989 HT P	
Chelicidae: <i>Pycnocentrus</i> (Thomson & McKeown, 1911) Type A	
Ascorythidae: <i>Ascorythus compactus</i> Clark, 1963 PT P	
Arthropoda: Crustacea: Calanoida	
Acalidae: <i>Acaria tenuiflorae</i> , 1976 HT,PT A	
Arthropoda: Crustacea: Cumacea	
Gynodiastylidae: <i>Gynodiastylis tubifurcatus</i> Gerken, 2001 PT A	
Gynodiastylidae: <i>Paracalocides megadactylus</i> Gerken, 2001 PT A	
Arthropoda: Crustacea: Stomatopoda	
Lysiosquillidae: <i>Lysiosquilla colemani</i> Ahyong, 2001 PT A	
Arthropoda: Crustacea: Amphipoda	
Talitridae: <i>Arctitalius bunnabus</i> Peart & Lowry, 2006 HT,PT P	
Arthropoda: Crustacea: Mysidocopa	
Cyprididae: <i>Lowrya talli</i> Parker, 1998 HT,PT A	
Arthropoda: Crustacea: Podocopa	
Cytheruridae: <i>Semiochura allenii</i> Yassin, J. Yassin & Wright, 1988 HT,PT A	
Leptocytheridae: <i>Hemicytheridea hilloni</i> Yassin, J. Yassin & Wright, 1988 HT,PT A	
Cnidaria: Alcyonaria: Gorgonacea	
Primoledidae: <i>Amphiphiopsis plumbea</i> Thomson & McKeown, 1911 Type A	
Primoledidae: <i>Pseudopurpurilina cornucopiae</i> (Thomson & McKeown, 1911) Type A	
Echinodermata: Asteroidea	
Echinasteridae: <i>Echinaster colemani</i> Rowe & Albertson, 1987 PT A	
Echinodermata: Ophiuroidea	
Amphiduridae: <i>Amphistigma watsonae</i> Baker, 1979 HT A	
Mollusca: Gastropoda	
Anabathronidae: <i>Pseudanaba pyramidalis</i> (Hedley, 1903) HT P A	
Canemidae: <i>Meridolum marshalli</i> (McLauchlan, 1951) HT,PT P	
Chromodorididae: <i>Chromodoris hunteri</i> Rudman, 1983 PT A	
Chromodorididae: <i>Chromodoris thompsoni</i> Rudman, 1983 HT,PT A	
Chromodorididae: <i>Chromodoris woodwardae</i> Rudman, 1983 HT,PT A	
Chromodorididae: <i>Noumea sulphurea</i> Rudman, 1986 HT,PT A	
Eptoniidae: <i>Plasticula morchi</i> (Angas, 1871) HT A	
Eulimidae: <i>Siliculaurina portensis</i> (Lasson, 1955) Type A	
Turridae: <i>Pilodilla stadialis</i> Hedley, 1922 PT A	
Porifera: Demospongiae: Haplosclerida	
Spongillidae: <i>Radiospongilla multispirifera</i> (Gee, 1933) Type A	

Key: HT, holotype; PT, paratype; P, type is from RNP; A, type is from area. * signified the species is now in synonymy or could not be traced, not all such may be marked.



Figure 4. *Arkye speechleyi* (Mascord, 1968) on a leaf. Photo: Ramon Mascord. *Arkye* species are free living ambushing hunters with spiny legs. *Arkye speechleyi* was described (as *Neoarchemorus* s.) by R. Mascord, who later featured photographs of many RNP specimens in his two books on Australian spiders (Mascord, 1970, 1980). The holotype specimen is from the Park.

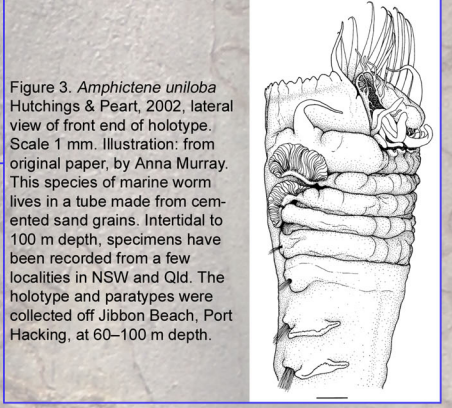


Figure 3. *Amphiclene uniloba* Hutchings & Peart, 2002, lateral view of front end of holotype. Scale 1 mm. Illustration from original paper, by Anna Murray. This species of marine worm lives in a tube made from cemented sand grains. Intertidal to 100 m depth, specimens have been recorded from a few localities in NSW and Qld. The holotype and paratypes were collected off Jibbon Beach, Port Hacking, at 60–100 m depth.



Figure 5. *Castiarina pulla* (Barker, 1886), pinned paratype specimen. Photo: Max Beatson, Australian Museum. This species links two species groups, resembling one in colour pattern and another in genitalic characters. The species is restricted to the coastal ranges of the Illawarra and Sydney regions. Some paratypes are from Waterfall.



Figure 6. *Austroscladius janae* Bickel, 1994, mounted specimen, lateral view. Photo: Max Beatson, Australian Museum. Dolichopodids are sometimes known as dancing flies. This species and its close relatives are often found on tree trunks and move upwards in a series of short, bounding flights. The species occurs from Cairns to Melbourne. Some paratypes are from RNP near Waterfall.

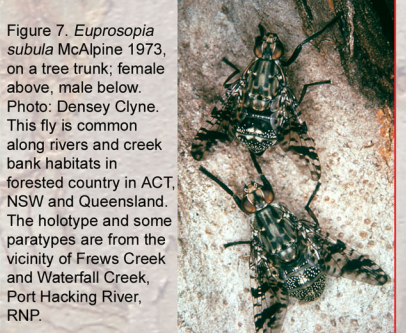


Figure 7. *Euprosopia subulata* McAlpine 1973, on a tree trunk; female above, male below. Photo: Densley Clyne. This fly is common along rivers and creek bank habitats in forested