



A GENERIC CLASSIFICATION OF XENIDAE (STREPSIPTERA) BASED ON THE MORPHOLOGY OF THE FEMALE CEPHALOTHORAX AND MALE CEPHALOTHECA WITH A PRELIMINARY CHECKLIST OF SPECIES

BY

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Deltaxenos gen. nov.: *Deltaxenos* cf. *bequaerti* (Luna de Carvalho, 1956)

ZooKeys 1093 ♦ 2022
Special Issue

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This is the first broad documentation and evaluation of the morphology of female cephalothoraces and male cephalothecae of a group of the endoparasitic Strepsiptera. Based on this a critical assessment of the classification of the genera of Xenidae is provided in accordance with results of recent molecular phylogenetic studies. Diagnoses and descriptions are presented for all 13 delimited genera. The earliest diverging genera are usually well characterized by unique features, whereas deeply nested genera are usually characterized by combinations of characters. Three new genera are described: *Sphexixenos* gen. nov., *Tuberoxenos* gen. nov., and *Deltaxenos* gen. nov. Five previously described genera are removed from synonymy: *Tachytixenos* Pierce, 1911, stat. res.; *Brasixenos* Kogan & Oliveira, 1966, stat. res.; *Leionotoxenos* Pierce, 1909, stat. res.; *Eupathocera* Pierce, 1908, stat. res.; and *Macroxenos* Schultze, 1925, stat. res. One former subgenus is elevated to generic rank: *Nipponoxenos* Kifune & Maeta, 1975, stat. res. *Monobiaphila* Pierce, 1909, syn. nov. and *Montezumiaphila* Brèthes, 1923, syn. nov. are recognized as junior synonyms of *Leionotoxenos* Pierce, 1909, stat. res. *Ophthalmochlus* Pierce, 1908, syn. nov., *Homilops* Pierce, 1908, syn. nov., *Sceliphronchthrus* Pierce, 1909, syn. nov., and *Ophthalmochlus (Isodontiphila)* Pierce, 1919, syn. nov. are recognized as junior synonyms of *Eupathocera* Pierce, 1908, stat. res. A preliminary checklist of 119 described species of Xenidae with information on their current taxonomic status, nomenclatural history, hosts, and distribution is provided. The species diversity of Xenidae probably remains poorly known: the expected number of species is at least twice as high as the number presently described.

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