

# AUSTRALASIAN *PECTINISETA* STEIN, WITH NOTES ON THE GENUS (Diptera, Muscidae)

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Figures 1-32.

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## SYNOPSIS

A key is given to the Indo-Australasian species of *Pectinisetia* Stein. Descriptions are given of the type-species, *pectinata* (Stein), and of the four Australian species, *australis* (Malloch), new comb., *occulta* sp. nov., *similis* sp. nov. and *torresiana* sp. nov. Notes are given on the other two Australasian species. A catalogue of the described species in the genus is given.

## INTRODUCTION

The genus *Pectinisetia* was described by Stein (1919: 145) for a species of Coenosiinae with an unusual head-profile, where a sharp angle is formed at the profrons, with a long face and long antennae, and with a pectinate arista in the male sex. The genus has been maintained in subsequent revisionary work by Malloch (1929b), Crosskey (1962) and Snyder (1965), and these authors, particularly Malloch and Crosskey, have emphasized the very close relationship between *Pectinisetia* and *Lispocephala* Pokorny. The characters of the pectinate male arista and the long-plumose female arista, combined with the angular head-profile (figs 1 and 2), are still the principal characters that have been used to define the genus and to differentiate it from *Lispocephala*.

In a recent key to the Oriental genera of Coenosiinae, Crosskey (1962) has included *Pectinisetia*, but he doubted whether it could be distinguished satisfactorily from *Lispocephala* and maintained as a good genus. In my opinion, not only *Pectinisetia* but also *Parvisquama* Malloch can be maintained as distinct genera, closely related to but distinct from *Lispocephala*. It is possible that new species of *Lispocephala* will be discovered with a long-plumose arista that will be indistinguishable from *Pectinisetia* in the female sex: in this case *Pectinisetia* might be used as a name for a subgeneric segregate within *Lispocephala*. Using the characters of the head and of the female ovipositor discussed below, I am continuing to treat *Pectinisetia* as a genus.