

A Revision of the Australian Species of *Iphiaulax* Foerster and *Chaoilta* Cameron (Insecta: Hymenoptera: Braconidae)

DONALD L.J. QUICKE*

Department of Animal & Plant Sciences, University of Sheffield,
Sheffield S10 2TN, England

* Australian Museum Visiting Fellow

ABSTRACT. Identification keys are provided for the Australian species of *Iphiaulax* Foerster and *Chaoilta* Cameron. *Iphiaulax brunneipennis* n.sp. from Victoria, *Iphiaulax latistigma* n.sp. from Queensland and the Solomons, *Iphiaulax danielsi* n.sp. from New South Wales, and *Chaoilta hollowayi* n.sp. from New South Wales, Queensland and Western Australia are described and illustrated. *Iphiaulax australiensis* Ashmead, *I. dubitorius* (Fabricius), *I. innotatus* (Turner), *I. proficiscator* (Fabricius), *I. rufus* Szépligeti, *C. decorata* (Szépligeti), *C. insularis* (Cameron), *C. lutea* Cameron and *C. nigriceps* (Cameron) are redescribed and illustrated. *Blastomorpha* Szépligeti, previously synonymised with *Chaoilta*, is raised in status to that of a subgenus of *Chaoilta*. *Ichneumon hospitator* Fabricius is treated as a junior synonym of *Iphiaulax proficiscator* (Fabricius) and *Iphiaulax turneri* Baltazar is treated as a junior synonym of *Ichneumon dubitorius* Fabricius. Two species are removed from *Iphiaulax*: *rubriceps* Shenefelt to the Doryctinae and *trinotata* Ashmead to *Bracon* Fabricius. Distribution maps and flight period histograms are provided for the four commonest species of *Iphiaulax* viz. *I. australiensis*, *I. dubitorius*, *I. proficiscator* and *I. rufus*. Two species of *Chaoilta* are recorded from Australia for the first time, viz. *C. insularis* and *C. lutea*.

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The Australian species of two genera of parasitic, braconine wasps are revised. These genera, *Iphiaulax* Foerster and *Chaoilta* Cameron, comprise a number of moderately sized to large, and often brightly coloured insects and include several common Australian species, though these have been little-studied in the past.

Few braconine genera have been so frequently misinterpreted as has *Iphiaulax*. Species of *Iphiaulax* are

frequently common, large and brightly coloured, and consequently, they are often collected and many of them have been described; approximately 520 species are listed in Shenefelt (1978). Several species were common and conspicuous enough to have been included in early systematic collections from Australia and thus three species names date back to the late eighteenth century works of Fabricius (see also Zimsen, 1964).