

BOOK REVIEW

NEW T.R.: NAME THAT INSECT: A GUIDE TO THE INSECTS OF SOUTHEASTERN AUSTRALIA. Oxford University Press, Melbourne, 1996, vi + 194 pp., 73 b/w plates. ISBN 0-19-553782-3. Price GBP 12.99.

The book presents the first guide to identifying insects of southeastern Australia, although other groups of Hexapoda (Collembola, Protura and Diplura) are also included.

The guide is divided into 10 chapters. The first two chapters concern insect diversity in general, with particular references to fauna of southeastern Australia. Short morphological characteristics of Hexapoda are also included. The subject of chapter 3 is a key to identification of all hexapodan classes and insect orders distributed in Australia, for both adult and larval stages. Characteristics mentioned

in the key are sufficient for determination. Common and/or important species from southeastern Australia are characterized briefly and discussed. An appendix presents information about collecting and preserving insects, and a glossary containing over 60 morphological terms concludes the guide.

The book is not an extensive entomological monograph, but a briefly and clearly written handbook for the identification of hexapods at higher taxonomic level. It has a pleasant graphic arrangement, although about one third of figures are only silhouettes. Thanks to the book's user-friendly image, the guide is valuable for students and teachers and, last but not least, for everyone looking for basic knowledge of insects in Australia and elsewhere.

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