cerci into two lobes. Two complexes of species can be distin­
guished in the chrysocera-group based on modifications in male
pregenital segments.
hyalipennis-group (PAL) (Chvála, 1994; Daugeron, 1997b, c)
vitripennis-group (PAL) (Chvála, 1994)
namwamba-group (AFR) (Daugeron, 1997c). A group of at
least 13 species, widely distributed in Africa, defined by the
presence of two fine strongly sclerotised hypandrial expansions.
X-group (AFR, AUS, OR1) (Daugeron, 1997c). A widely dis­
tributed group of at least five undescribed or undetermined spe­
cies from Afrotropical (2 species), Oriental (2 species) and
Australasian (1 species) regions, tentatively defined on the basis
of an unpaired epandrium.
Genus Empis L. subgenus Empis s. str.
chioptera-group (PAL) (Syrovátka, 1991)
negipes-group (PAL) (Syrovátka, 1991)
pennipes-group (PAL) (Syrovátka, 1991)
setiarsus-group (AFR) (Daugeron, 1997c). A group of at
least 13 species, mainly distributed in South Africa, for which
the monophyly remains uncertain.
Genus Rhamphomyia Meigen subgenus *Aclonempis* Collin
(PAL)

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BOOK REVIEW

THOMPSON F.C. (ed.): FRUIT FLY EXPERT IDENTIFICATION
SYSTEM AND SYSTEMATIC INFORMATION DATABASE.
MYIA, Vol. 9, North American Dipterists’ Society. Backhuys
USD 98.00 (hardbound + CD-ROM disk).

The present publication has as a subtitle: A resource for iden­
tification and information on fruit flies and maggots, with infor­
mation on their classification, distribution and documentation. I
believe nothing more needs to be added to characterise this pub­
lication as regards its content, perhaps only to comment on the
524 large sized (A4) pages with a small economical brevier
print. A comprehensive publication in which anybody will find
everything which he needs to know about fruit flies. The book is
divided into three parts: Part one, Application and Data, is given
on an attached CD ROM (see below). Part two, the “Systematic
Information Database” on pp. 9–299, presents current classifica­
tion of the family Tephritidae with complete references down to
genera, then chapters on phylogeny, fossils, zoogeography, mor­
phology, biology, and economical importance with all relevant
literature, then notes on collections and specialists of the family,
followed by complete “Systematic Database of Names” (pp.
65–251) and an index of all names (pp. 253–299). The third part
represents a complete bibliography on fruit flies (pp. 303–492)
followed by “Serial Abbreviations” of periodicals (pp.
493–513).

An example of a real modern publication with a supplementary
“Diptera Data Dissemination Disk” (DDDD) Volume 1
from December 1998. The North American Dipterists’ Society
leads the way in concentrating and distributing all available data
among scientists. The DDDD (separate price given 20 USD) in­
cludes, besides the above, an Expert Identification System and
Systematic Information Database of fruit flies, the Family-group
Names in Diptera (by Curtis Sabrosky), a Key to Mosquito Gen­
era of the World, Dipterists’ Resource Directory, Biosystematic
Database of World Diptera, information on Diptera World­
Wide-Web Sites and a USNM Diptera Collection Inventory.
The DDDD becomes a new serial publication designed to use a
digital format for storing information arranged by the System­
atic Entomology Laboratory, U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Our congratulations and gratitudes go to the Washington Sys­
tematic Entomology Laboratory, USDA, for providing the funds
to produce the DDDD. However, we are especially obliged to
Chris Thompson of the USDA, who is undoubtedly not only the
main organizer and editor, but spirit of the whole project.

M. Chvála