

cerci into two lobes. Two complexes of species can be distinguished in the *chrysochera*-group based on modifications in male pregenital segments.

hyalipennis-group (PAL) (Chvála, 1994; Dauteron, 1997b, c)

vitripennis-group (PAL) (Chvála, 1994)

namwamba-group (AFR) (Dauteron, 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, ORI) (Dauteron, 1997c). A widely distributed group of at least five undescribed or undetermined species 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)

**nigripes*-group (PAL) (Syrovátka, 1991)

pennipes-group (PAL) (Syrovátka, 1991)

**setitarsus*-group (AFR) (Dauteron, 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)

Received March 19, 1999; accepted August 2, 1999

Eur. J. Entomol. 97: 129, 2000
ISSN 1210-5759

BOOK REVIEW

THOMPSON F.C. (ed.): FRUIT FLY EXPERT IDENTIFICATION SYSTEM AND SYSTEMATIC INFORMATION DATABASE. MYIA, Vol. 9, North American Dipterists' Society. Backhuys Publishers, Leiden, 1998, 524 pp. ISBN 90-5782-013-7. Price USD 98.00 (hardbound + CD-ROM disk).

The present publication has as a subtitle: A resource for identification and information on fruit flies and maggots, with information on their classification, distribution and documentation. I believe nothing more needs to be added to characterise this publication 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 classification of the family Tephritidae with complete references down to genera, then chapters on phylogeny, fossils, zoogeography, morphology, 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) includes, 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 Genera 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 Systematic Entomology Laboratory, U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Our congratulations and gritudes go to the Washington Systematic 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