

A REVISED, ANNOTATED CHECKLIST OF VICTORIAN DRAGONFLIES (INSECTA: ODONATA)

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Seventy-six species of Odonata are known from Victoria (26 Zygoptera; 50 Anisoptera). In the last ten years one new species *Austroaeschna ingrid* Theischinger, 2008 has been described from the State; *Austroepigomphus praeruptus* (Selys, 1857) and *Pseudagrion microcephalum* (Rambur, 1842) have now been recorded; and records of *Rhadinosticta banksi* (Tillyard, 1913) and *Labidiosticta vallisii* (Fraser, 1955) are judged to be erroneous. Generic names of *Aeshna*, and *Trapezostigma* have been changed. Some changes in higher level names and relationships, based on recent phylogenetic analyses, have been incorporated. Distribution maps for all species, based on museum collections, are provided.

Key Words: Odonata, Zygoptera, Anisoptera, Victoria, Australia, checklist, *Hemiphlebia*

IN the ten years since an annotated checklist of the Victorian Odonata was published (Endersby 2000), a new species has been described from Victoria, additional species have been recorded in the State, substantial museum collection label data have become available, and numerous phylogenetic studies have been published. Theischinger & Endersby (2009) have incorporated many of these changes into an identification guide for the adults and larvae of Australian Odonata and this revised checklist brings the Victorian fauna into alignment with much of that publication.

A map showing its Australian distribution is given for each species (Figs. 1-78), based almost exclusively on label data from museum specimens, with obviously erroneous outliers removed. Their most valuable use is to indicate which species are at the end of their range within the State and to give some rough measure of abundance or rarity. For those species erroneously recorded for Victoria, the maps demonstrate how far they are from their natural distribution and, therefore, how extremely unlikely is the record. There is no doubt that future observations will expand the known ranges of the rarer species within the State.

Phylogenies derived from morphological characters, palaeontological evidence and, more recently, from molecular analyses have produced insights into the evolutionary history of the Odonata but also conflict between the competing versions. Almost every

molecular study seeks greater taxon and genome sampling and, as this occurs, slow convergence between the alternatives is appearing. In the meantime some framework is needed on which to list the Victorian fauna today. Theischinger & Endersby (2009) have tried to steer a middle course, avoiding the extremes but acknowledging that change is occurring; it will still annoy some but must be seen as a work in progress.

DISCUSSION

Paragraph numbering follows the notes shown in Table 1.

1. Despite exceeding the scope of this checklist, it should be noted that the range of the endangered *Hemiphlebia mirabilis* has been greatly expanded to sites in the far southwest of the State (Richter 2009). (See Fig. 55).

2. When Watson et al. (1991) raised four subspecies of *Argiolestes griseus* to full species they considered that *A. intermedius* and *A. eboracus* were to be found in Victoria. From Figure 48 it can be seen that the *A. eboracus* decision was based on one museum specimen. Theischinger (1998) subsequently placed these two species in *Griseargiolestes*.

3. Watson (1974) included Victoria as a locality for *Rhadinosticta banksi* and *Labidiosticta*

vallisi in his distributions list for Australian Odonata. Hutchinson (1975) followed this but Endersby (2000) rejected *R. banksi* on the basis of its geographical remoteness. Now that the Australian National Insect Collection label data is available it can be seen that only one specimen of each of the species was labelled from Victoria and they were both taken on the same day, by the same person, in the same locality [Valencia Creek, Gippsland East; Wilson, F.E, 28-Dec-57]. Based on label data from the Museum Victoria insect collection, in 1957 Wilson was collecting at Traralgon, Vic. (20 Dec); Armidale, NSW (21 Dec); Pt Albert, Vic. (22 Dec); Millgrove, Vic. (27 Dec); and Valencia Creek, Vic. (31 Dec). Wilson lived not far from Armadale, Victoria and the NSW reference may be a wrong assumption when the label data were registered. His own collecting trips to Queensland occurred in October 1920 and January 1934 so it is unlikely that he mislabelled specimens that he had collected personally. The specimens are correctly identified (G. Theischinger pers. comm.) but their provenance is doubtful. Neither should be accepted for the Victorian checklist (See Figs. 58 and 71).

4. Based on molecular studies, Carle et al. (2008) recovered the Protoneuridae: Disparoneurinae genera (sensu Fraser 1957) *Chlorocnemis*, *Prodasineura* and *Nososticta* within Platynemididae, and well separated from their one example of the Protoneurinae, *Neonura*. This decision depends on the assignment of *Coelicia* and *Calicnemis* to the Platynemididae. Fraser (1957) placed these two genera in Platynemididae: Calicneminae with the proviso "... one has only to compare the genera composing [Calicneminae] to note how artificial it seems to be ...". The strong molecular differences between protoneurines and disparoneurines were supported by several morphological characters, leading Carle et al. (2008) to recommend that Disparoneurinae be regarded as a subfamily of Platynemididae, pending further analysis to confirm its monophyly. Rehn (2003), using morphological characters, also has *Nososticta* well separated from *Protoneura*. The decision to remove *Nososticta* from the Protoneuridae seems to be well supported; where to place it is more contentious. For want of a better solution at this time, the Platynemididae: Disparoneurinae of Carle et al. (2008) is accepted for this checklist.

5. Photographs of *Pseudagrion microcephalum*, taken at Elusive Lake, East Gippsland in January 2009 by Reiner Richter, were circulated

on the internet. They were of adequate quality to confirm the species but no voucher specimens have been lodged with a recognised repository (<http://photos.mr.id.au/2009/01/14/> and <http://photos.mr.id.au/2009/01/23/> accessed 22 January 2010). This locality is shown in Fig. 70 for the species together with the known museum specimens.

6. Lohmann (1996) proposed the suborder Epiprocta to accommodate Anisoptera and Anisozygoptera, each of which then became an infraorder. This slightly predates the similar proposal from Bechly (1996) for Epiproctophora, and is therefore used in Theischinger & Endersby (2009) and this checklist. All Victorian Epiprocta fall within the infraorder Anisoptera.

7. Corbet (1999) renamed *Aeshna brevistyla* as *Adversaeschna brevistyla*, quoting the authority of Watson (1992), even though Watson had only proposed *Adversaeschna* as a subgenus of *Aeshna*. A number of checklists now list *Adversaeschna brevistyla* and Theischinger (pers. comm.) accepts that it is sufficiently different from other *Aeshna* species to warrant generic rank.

8. Burmeister (1839) named this species as *Aeshna* (sic) *papuensis*, Brauer (1866) transferred it to the genus *Anax*, and Kirby (1890) included it in *Hemianax*. This has been the preferred nomenclature since, except that Tillyard (1916) still referred to it as *Anax papuensis*. Theischinger (pers. comm.) believes the species to be closer to *Anax* than to the type for the genus, *Hemianax ephippiger* Burmeister 1839, hence the change in Theischinger & Endersby (2009). This checklist retains *Hemianax* until a relevant review is formally published.

9. Traditionally the family Aeshnidae was divided into Brachytroninae and Aeshninae (cf. Davies & Tobin 1985: xiii) with *Dendroaeshna* falling within the Brachytronini of the former taxon. Von Ellenrieder (2002) grouped *Dendroaeshna*, *Epiaeshna*, *Aeschnophlebia*, *Nasiaeschna*, *Brachytron* and *Tetracanthagyna* on morphological grounds. Peters & Theischinger (2007) proposed the Family Brachytronidae Cockerell, 1913 to contain the genera *Dendroaeshna* Tillyard 1907 and *Tetracanthagyna* Selys 1883. The former has relevance to the Victorian fauna.

10. Theischinger (2008) recognized that specimens from the Grampians, previously identified as *Austroaeshna multipunctata*, differed sufficiently to be described as a new species *Austroaeshna ingrid*. (See Fig. 8).

Table 1. Checklist of Victorian Odonata.

Order Odonata Fabricius, 1793	
Suborder Zygoptera Selys, 1854	
Family Lestidae Calvert, 1901	
<i>Austrolestes analis</i> (Rambur, 1842)	
<i>Austrolestes annulosus</i> (Selys, 1862)	
<i>Austrolestes aridus</i> (Tillyard, 1908)	
<i>Austrolestes cingulatus</i> (Burmeister, 1839)	
<i>Austrolestes io</i> (Selys, 1862)	
<i>Austrolestes leda</i> (Selys, 1862)	
<i>Austrolestes psyche</i> (Hagen, 1862)	
Family Hemiphlebiidae Fraser, 1960	
<i>Hemiphlebia mirabilis</i> Selys, 1869	1
Family Synlestidae Tillyard, 1917	
<i>Synlestes weyersii</i> Selys, 1869	
Family Megapodagrionidae Tillyard, 1917	
<i>Austroargiolestes calcaris</i> (Fraser, 1958)	
<i>Austroargiolestes icteromelas</i> (Selys, 1862)	
<i>Griseargiolestes eboracus</i> (Tillyard, 1913)	2
<i>Griseargiolestes intermedius</i> (Tillyard, 1913)	
Family Diphlebiidae Davies & Tobin, 1984	
<i>Diphlebia lestoides</i> (Selys, 1853)	
<i>Diphlebia nymphoides</i> Tillyard, 1912	
Family Isostictidae Fraser, 1955	
<i>[Labidiosticta vallis]</i> (Fraser, 1955)]	3
<i>[Rhadinosticta banksi]</i> (Tillyard, 1913)]	3
<i>Rhadinosticta simplex</i> (Martin, 1901)	
Family Platynemididae: Disparoneurinae Fraser, 1957	4
<i>Nososticta solida</i> (Hagen, 1860)	
Family Coenagrionidae Kirby, 1890	
<i>Austroagrion watsoni</i> Liefstinck, 1982	
<i>Austrocnemis splendida</i> (Martin, 1901)	
<i>Caliagrion billinghursti</i> (Martin, 1901)	
<i>Coenagrion lyelli</i> (Tillyard, 1913)	
<i>Ischnura aurora</i> (Brauer, 1865)	
<i>Ischnura heterosticta</i> (Burmeister, 1839)	
<i>Pseudagrion aureofrons</i> Tillyard, 1906	
<i>Pseudagrion microcephalum</i> (Rambur, 1842)	5
<i>Xanthagrion erythroneurum</i> (Selys, 1876)	
Suborder Epiprocta Lohmann, 1996	6
Infraorder Anisoptera Selys, 1854	
Family Austropetaliidae Carle & Louton, 1994	
<i>Austropetalia tonyana</i> Theischinger, 1995	
Family Aeshnidae Rambur, 1842	
<i>Adversaeschna brevistyla</i> (Rambur, 1842)	7
<i>Hemianax papuensis</i> (Burmeister, 1839)	8
Family Brachytronidae Cockerell, 1913	9
<i>Dendroaeschna conspersa</i> (Tillyard, 1907)	
Family Telephlebiidae Cockerell, 1913	
<i>Austroaeschna (Austroaeschna) atrata</i> Martin, 1909	
<i>Austroaeschna (Austroaeschna) flavomaculata</i> Tillyard, 1916	
<i>Austroaeschna (Austroaeschna) inermis</i> Martin, 1901	
<i>Austroaeschna (Austroaeschna) ingrid</i> , Theischinger, 2008	10
<i>Austroaeschna (Austroaeschna) multipunctata</i> (Martin, 1901)	

Table 1. cont'd.

	<i>Austroaeschna (Austroaeschna) parvistigma</i> (Selys, 1883)	
	<i>Austroaeschna (Austroaeschna) subapicalis</i> Theischinger, 1982	
	<i>Austroaeschna (Austroaeschna) unicornis</i> (Martin, 1901)	
	<i>Austroaeschna (Pulchaeschna) pulchra</i> Tillyard, 1909	11
	<i>Notoaeschna sagittata</i> (Martin, 1901)	
	<i>Spinaeschna tripunctata</i> (Martin, 1901)	
	<i>Telephlebia brevicauda</i> Tillyard, 1916	
Family Gomphidae Rambur, 1842		
	<i>Antipodogomphus acolythus</i> (Martin, 1901)	
	<i>Austroepigomphus (Austroepigomphus) praeruptus</i> (Selys, 1857)	12
	<i>Austrogomphus (Austrogomphus) angelorum</i> Tillyard, 1913	
	<i>Austrogomphus (Austrogomphus) australis</i> Dale, 1854	
	<i>Austrogomphus (Austrogomphus) cornutus</i> Watson, 1991	
	<i>Austrogomphus (Austrogomphus) guerini</i> (Rambur, 1842)	
	<i>Austrogomphus (Austrogomphus) ochraceus</i> (Selys, 1869)	
	<i>Hemigomphus gouldii</i> (Selys, 1854)	
	<i>Hemigomphus heteroclytus</i> Selys, 1854	
Family Synthemiidae Tillyard, 1917		
	<i>Archaeosynthemis orientalis</i> (Tillyard, 1910)	
	<i>Eusynthemis brevistyla</i> (Selys, 1871)	
	<i>Eusynthemis guttata</i> (Selys, 1871)	
	<i>Eusynthemis tillyardi</i> Theischinger, 1995	
	<i>Eusynthemis virgula</i> (Selys, 1874)	
	<i>Parasynthemis regina</i> (Selys, 1874)	
	<i>Synthemis eustalacta</i> (Burmeister, 1839)	
Family Cordulephyidae Tillyard, 1917		
	<i>Cordulephya pygmaea</i> Selys, 1870	
Family Austrocorduliidae Bechly, 1996		
	<i>Apocordulia macrops</i> Watson, 1980	
	<i>Austrocordulia refracta</i> Tillyard, 1909	
Family Corduliidae Kirby, 1890		13
	<i>Hemicordulia australiae</i> (Rambur, 1842)	
	<i>Hemicordulia tau</i> (Selys, 1871)	
	<i>Procordulia jacksoniensis</i> (Rambur, 1842)	
Family Libellulidae Rambur, 1842		
	<i>Austrothemis nigrescens</i> (Martin, 1901)	
	<i>Crocothemis nigrifrons</i> (Kirby, 1894)	
	<i>Diplacodes bipunctata</i> (Brauer, 1865)	
	<i>Diplacodes haematodes</i> (Burmeister, 1839)	
	<i>Diplacodes melanopsis</i> (Martin, 1901)	
	<i>Nannophlebia risi</i> Tillyard, 1913	
	<i>Nannophya australis</i> Brauer, 1865	
	<i>Nannophya dalei</i> (Tillyard, 1908)	
	<i>Orthetrum caledonicum</i> (Brauer, 1865)	
	<i>Orthetrum villosivittatum</i> (Brauer, 1868)	
	<i>Pantala flavescens</i> (Fabricius, 1798)	
	<i>Tramea loewii</i> Kaup, 1866	14

11. Peters and Theischinger (2007) erected a new subgenus, *Pulchaeschna*, within *Austroaeschna* to include *Austroaeschna eungella* Theischinger, 1993, *A. muelleri* Theischinger 1982 and *A. pulchra* Tillyard, 1909. This only affects *Austroaeschna* (*Pulchaeschna*) *pulchra* within the Victorian fauna.

12. Theischinger (2004) reported larval material of an *Austroepigomphus* species from two localities in Victoria. There are two putative species of *Austroepigomphus*. *Austroepigomphus praeruptus* was described by Selys from a specimen from Adelaide in 1857 and *Austroepigomphus melaleucae* was described by Tillyard in 1909 from Auburn, near Sydney. There is insufficient adult or larval material in collections to determine categorically whether these are two species, or whether *A. melaleucae* is a synonym of *A. praeruptus*. The holotype of *A. praeruptus* has apparently been lost from the Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris (Houston & Watson 1988, Watson 1991) so any resolution of the problem will rely on additional collecting from a wide geographic range. The name *Austroepigomphus*

praeruptus takes precedence and the most likely outcome will be, if separate species are confirmed, that this will have the more southern distribution while that of *Austroepigomphus melaleucae* will be more northern. Whatever the outcome, the new Victorian record is *Austroepigomphus praeruptus*. (Endersby 2005).

13. Ware et al. (2007) returned the Hemicorduliidae of Bechly (1996) to a restricted Corduliidae. This affects three species in the Victorian list.

14. The Australian checklist, following Cowley (1935), accepted the generic name *Trapezostigma*. In Case 3324 of the Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature, Dijkstra et al. (2005) applied to conserve the generic name *Tramea* Hagen, 1861 by suppression of the senior objective synonym *Trapezostigma* Hagen, 1849. The Commission ruled in favour of the submission in Opinion 2158 (Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature 63 (3) September 2006: 209-10).

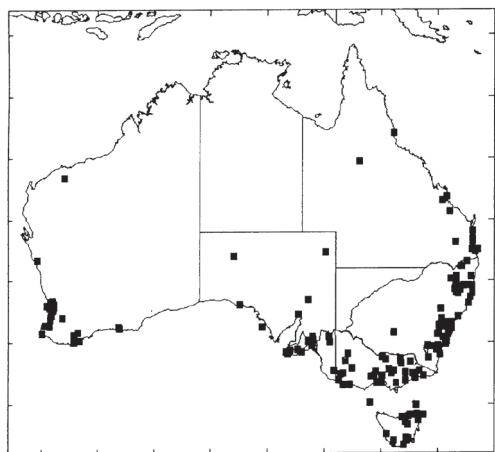


Fig. 1. *Adversaeschna brevistyla*.

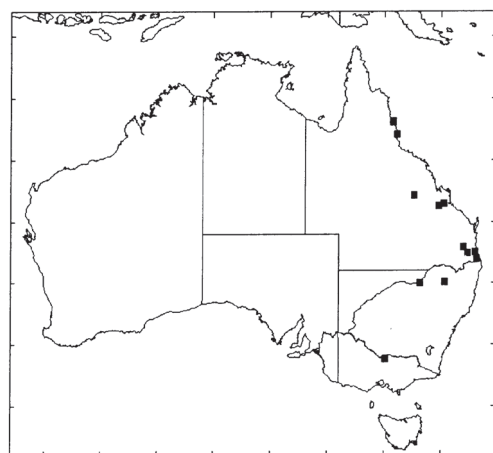


Fig. 2. *Antipodogomphus acolythus*.

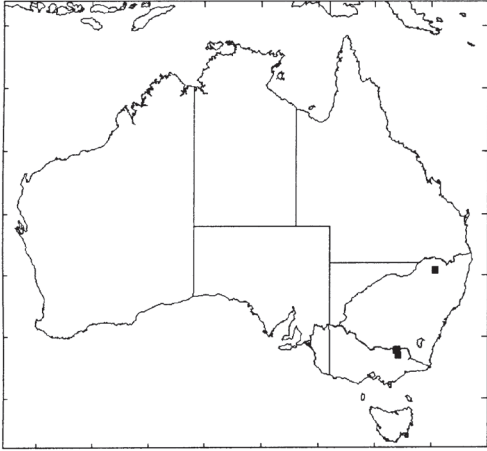


Fig. 3. *Apocordulia macrops*.

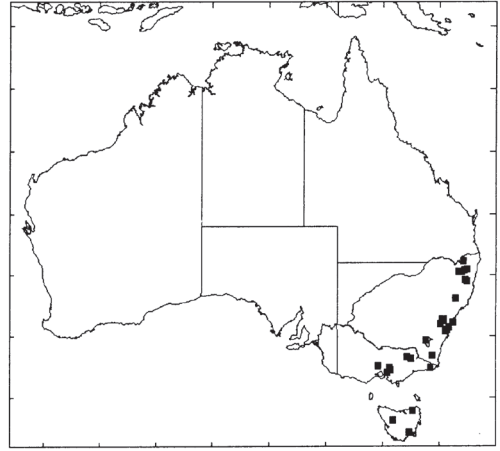


Fig. 4. *Archaeosynthemis orientalis*.

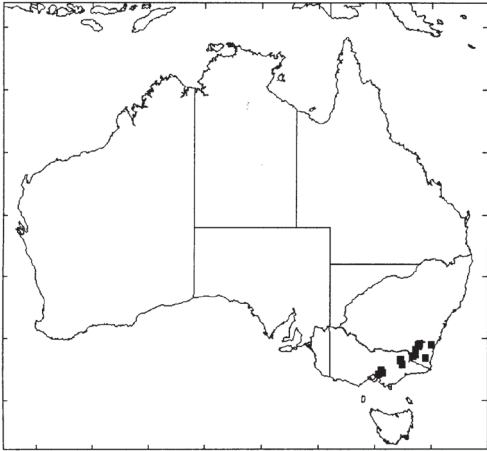


Fig. 5. *Austroaeschna atrata*.

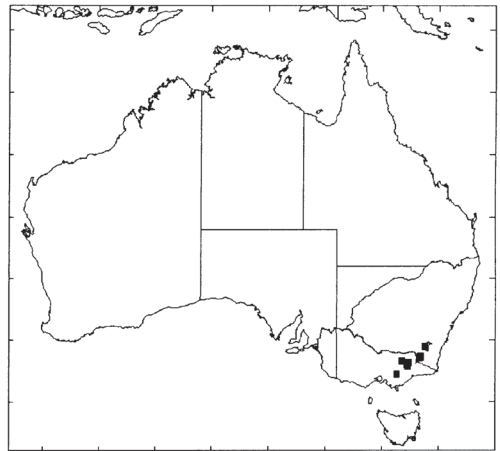


Fig. 6. *Austroaeschna flavomaculata*.

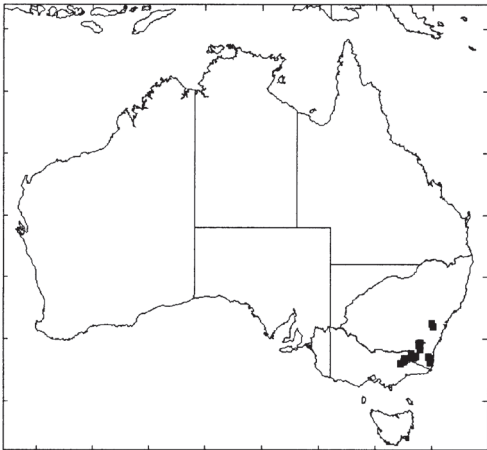


Fig. 7. *Austroaeschna inermis*.



Fig. 8. *Austroaeschna ingrid*.

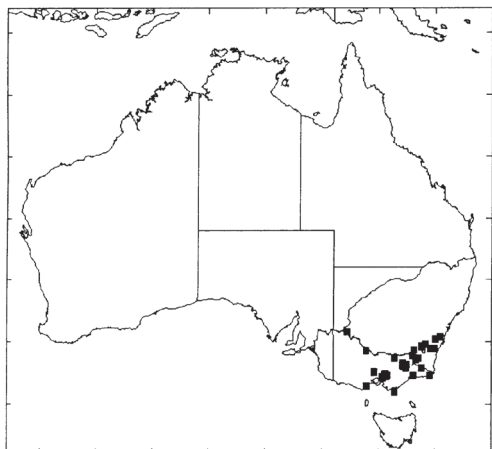


Fig. 9. *Austroaeschna multipunctata*.

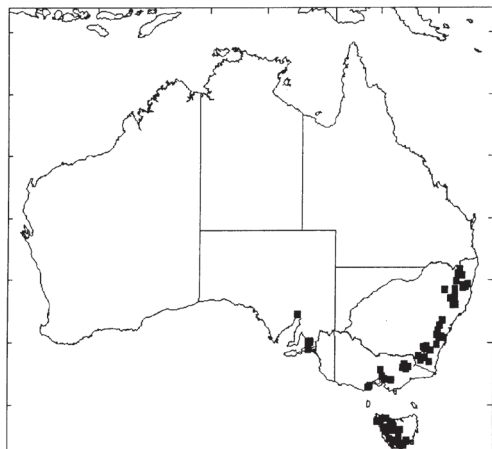


Fig. 10. *Austroaeschna parvistigma*.

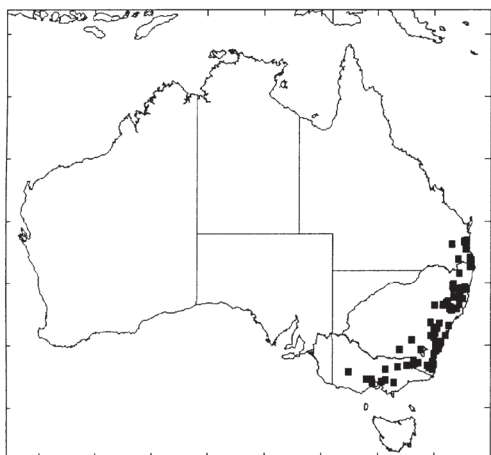


Fig. 11. *Austroaeschna pulchra*.

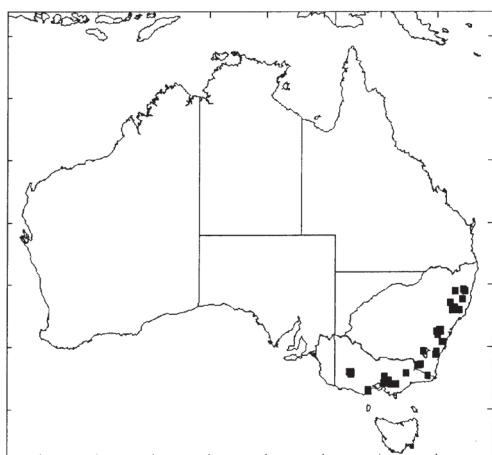


Fig. 12. *Austroaeschna subapicalis*.

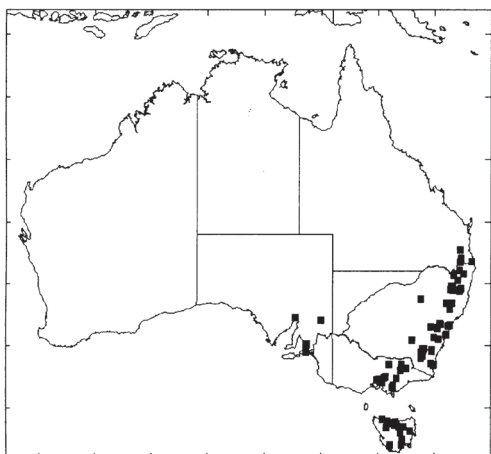


Fig. 13. *Austroaeschna unicornis*.

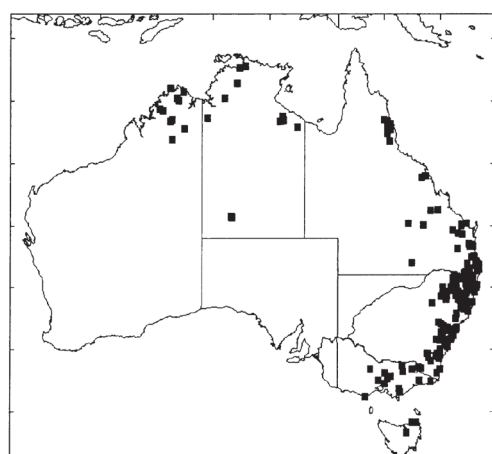


Fig. 14. *Austroagrion watsoni*.

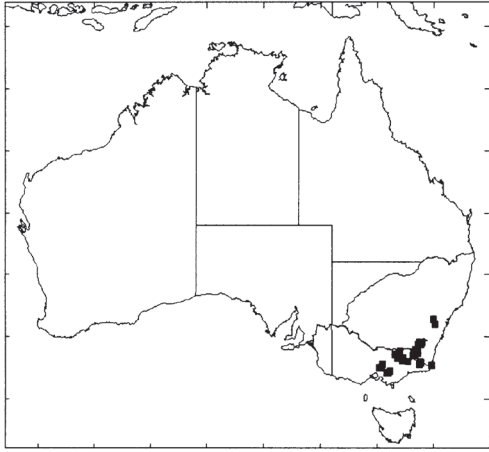


Fig. 15. *Austroargiolestes calcaris*.

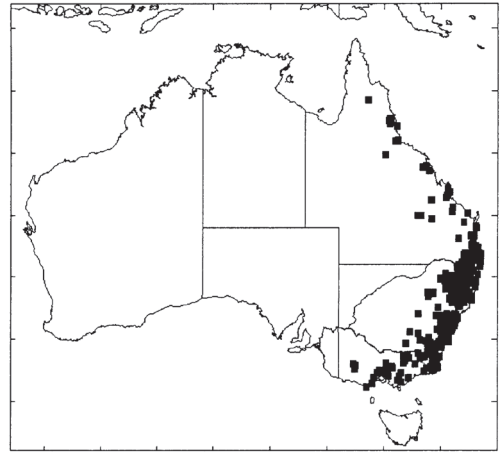


Fig. 16. *Austroargiolestes icteromelas*.

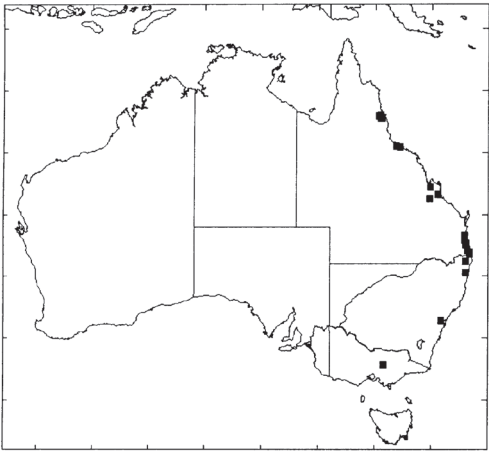


Fig. 17. *Austrocnemis splendida*.

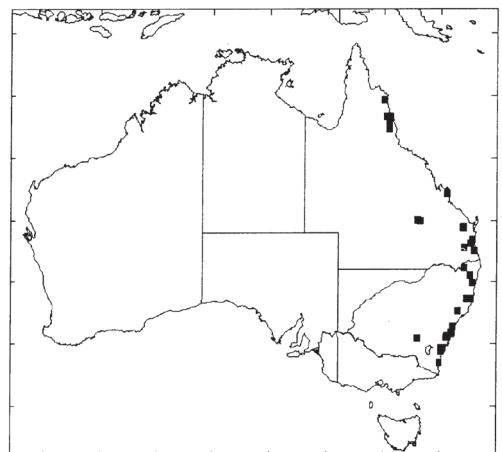


Fig. 18. *Austrocordulia refracta*.

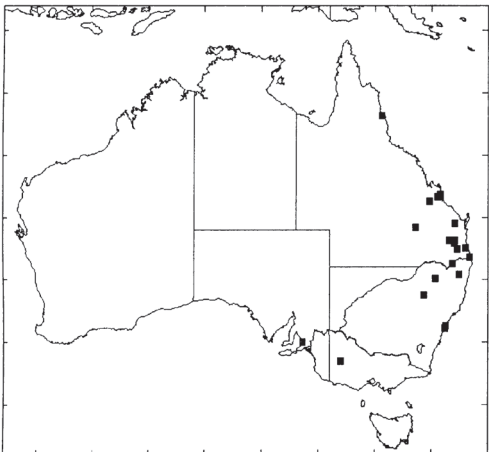


Fig. 19. *Austroepigomphus praeruptus*.

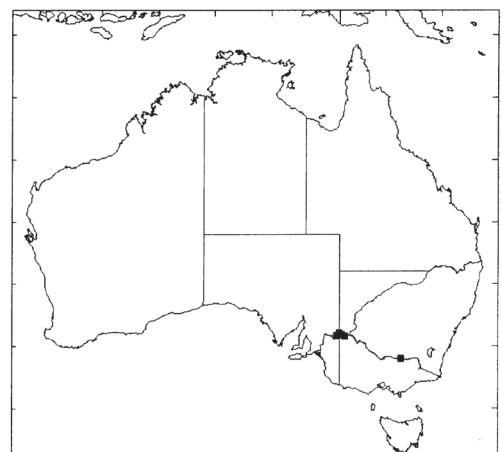


Fig. 20. *Austrogomphus angelorum*.

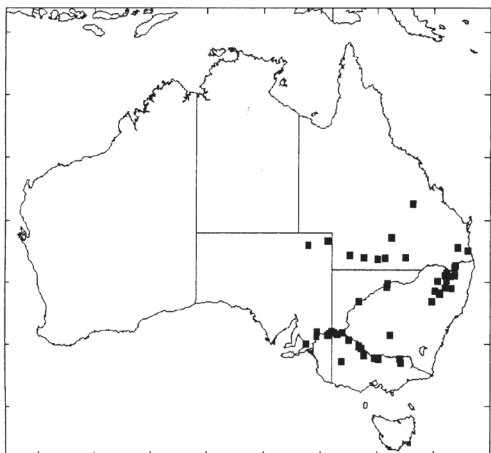


Fig. 21. *Austrogomphus australis*.

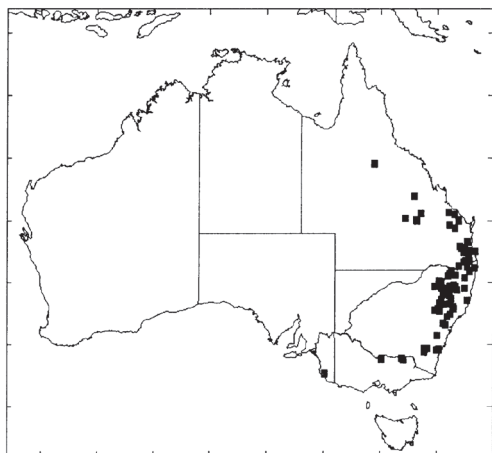


Fig. 22. *Austrogomphus cornutus*.

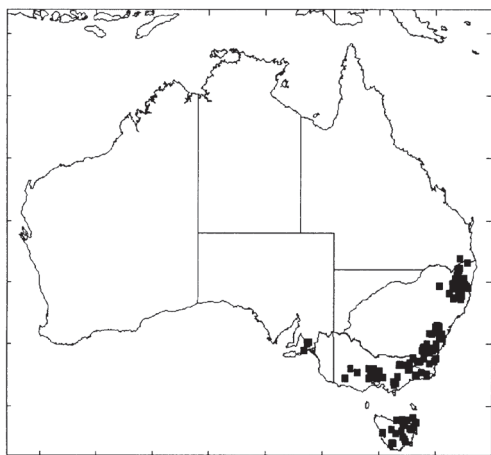


Fig. 23. *Austrogomphus guerini*.

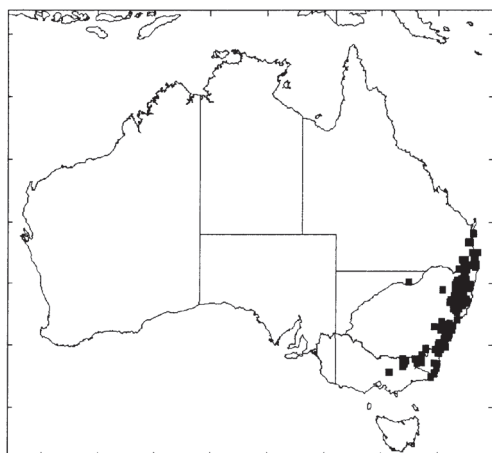


Fig. 24. *Austrogomphus ochraceus*.

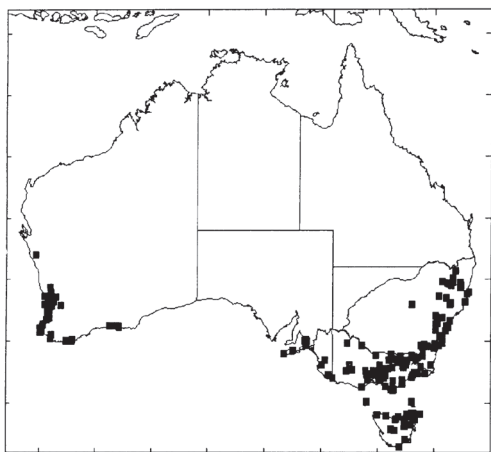


Fig. 25. *Austrolestes analis*.

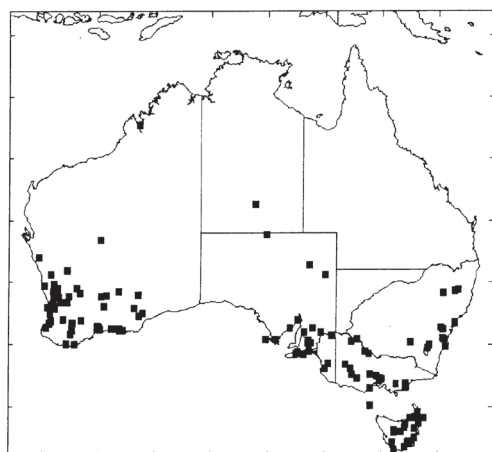


Fig. 26. *Austrolestes annulosus*.

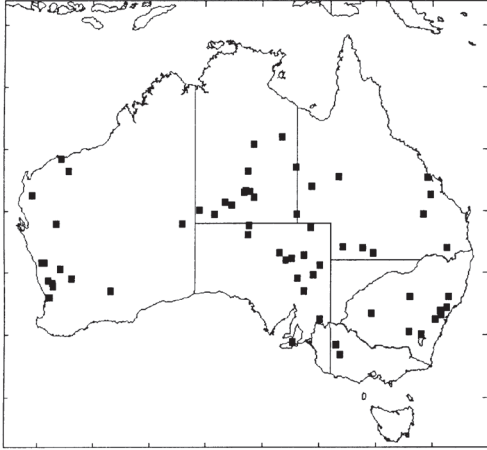


Fig. 27. *Austrolestes aridus*.

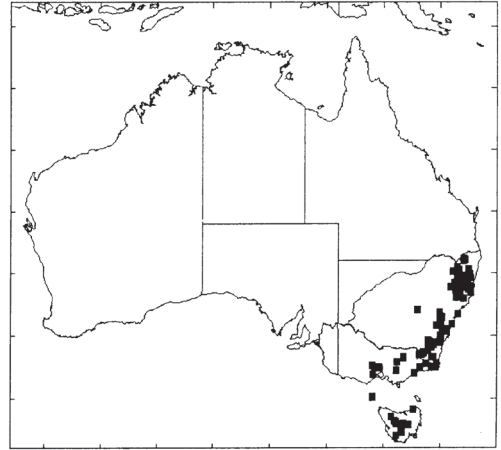


Fig. 28. *Austrolestes cingulatus*.

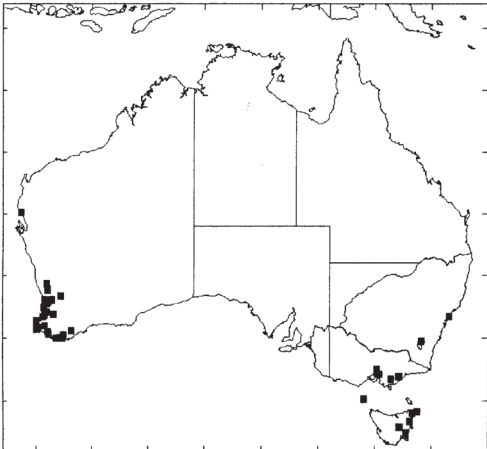


Fig. 29. *Austrolestes io*.

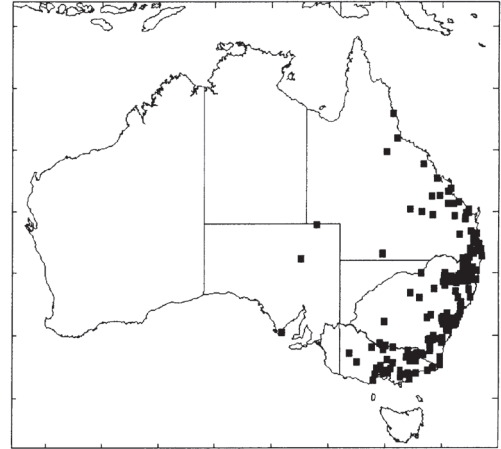


Fig. 30. *Austrolestes leda*.

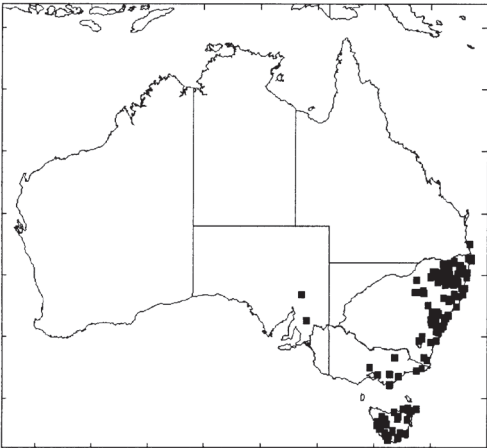


Fig. 31. *Austrolestes psyche*.

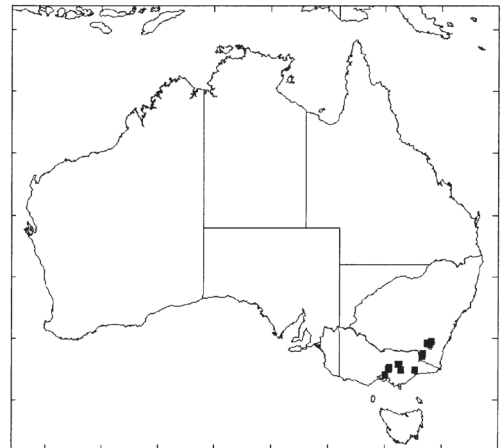


Fig. 32. *Austropetalia tonyana*.

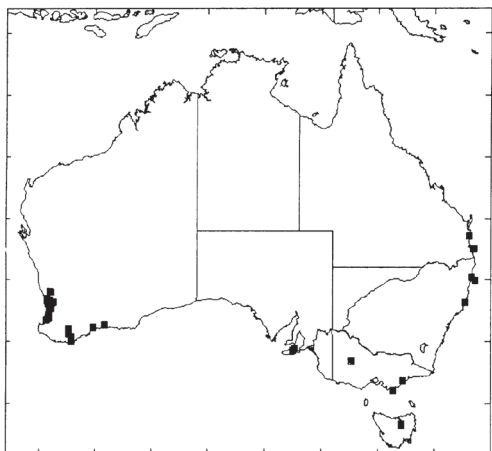


Fig. 33. *Austrothemis nigrescens*.

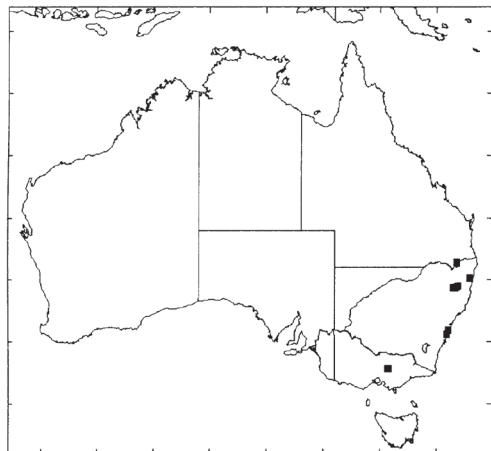


Fig. 34. *Calia grion billinghursti*.

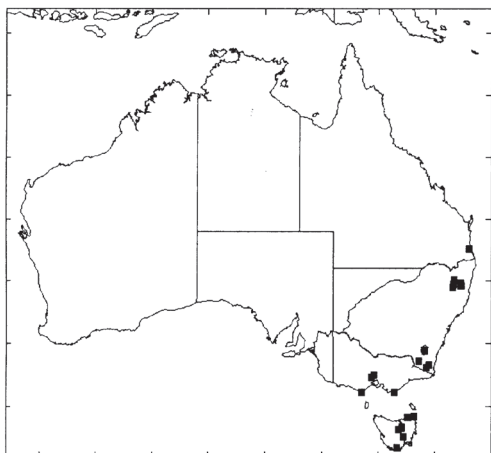


Fig. 35. *Coenagrion lyelli*.

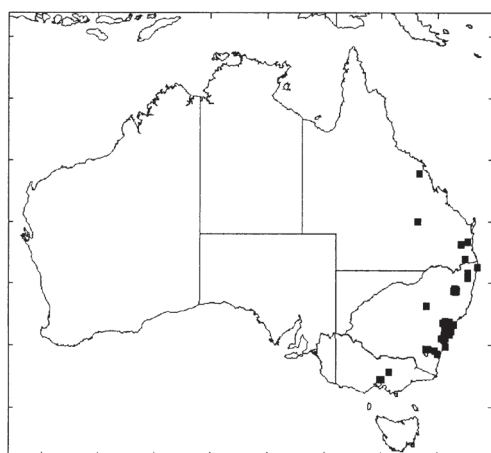


Fig. 36. *Cordulephya pygmaea*.

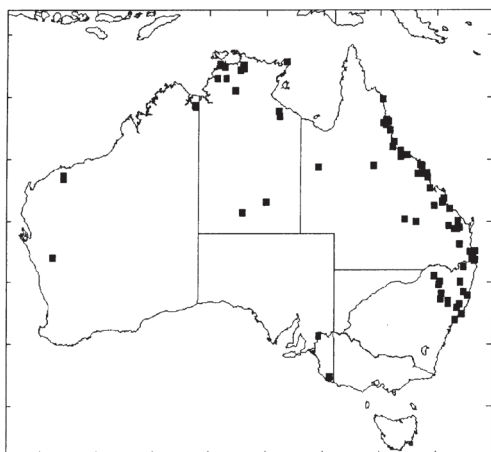


Fig. 37. *Crocothemis nigrifrons*.

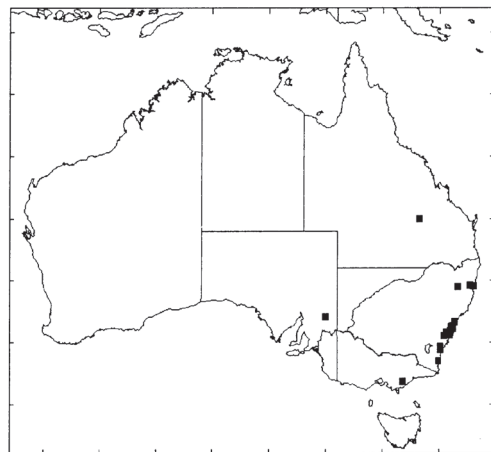


Fig. 38. *Dendroaeschna conspersa*.

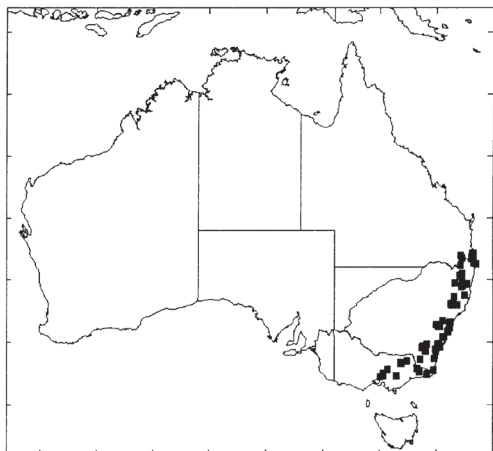


Fig. 39. *Diphlebia lestoides*.

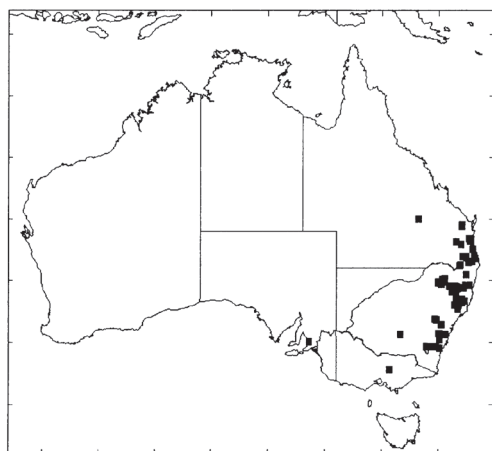


Fig. 40. *Diphlebia nymphoides*.

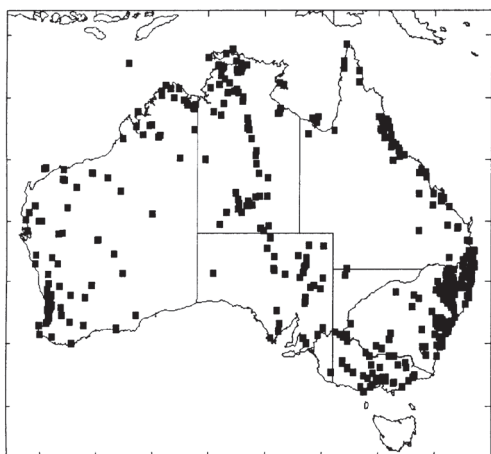


Fig. 41. *Diplacodes bipunctata*.

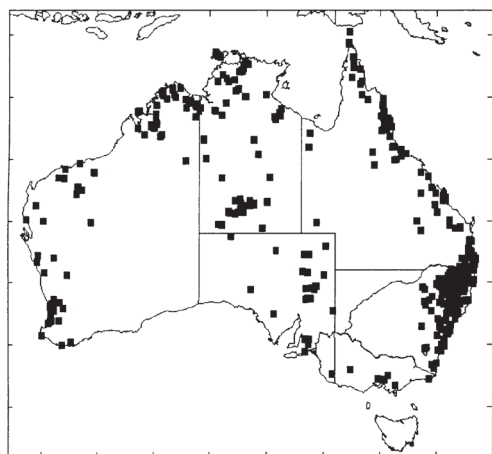


Fig. 42. *Diplacodes haematodes*.

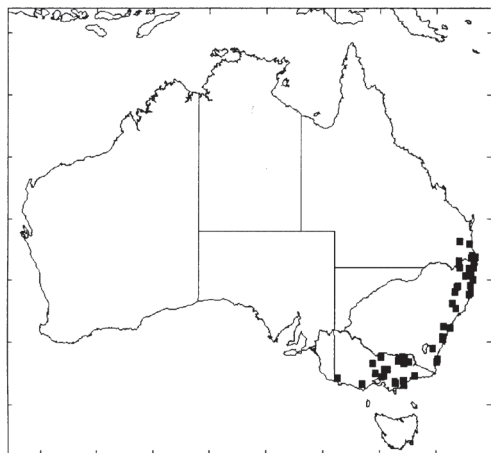


Fig. 43. *Diplacodes melanopsis*.

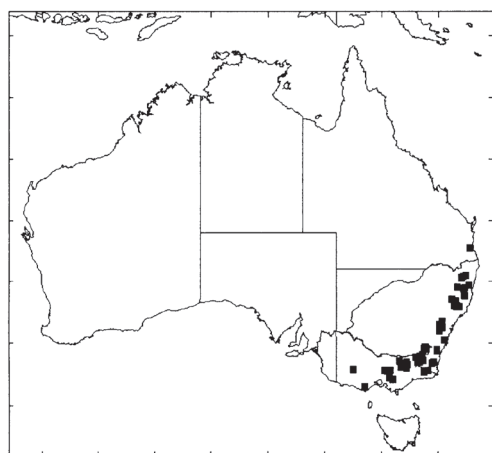


Fig. 44. *Eusynthemis brevistyla*.

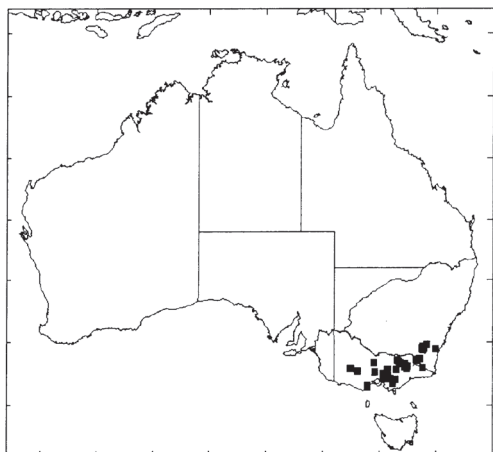


Fig. 45. *Eusynthemis guttata*.

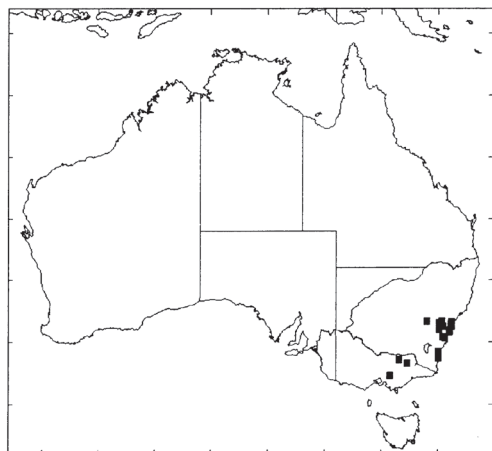


Fig. 46. *Eusynthemis tillyardi*.

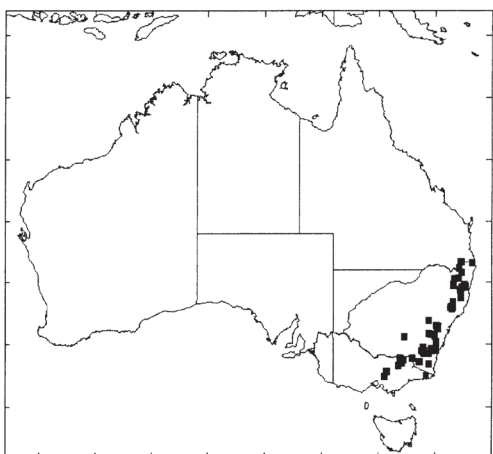


Fig. 47. *Eusynthemis virgula*.

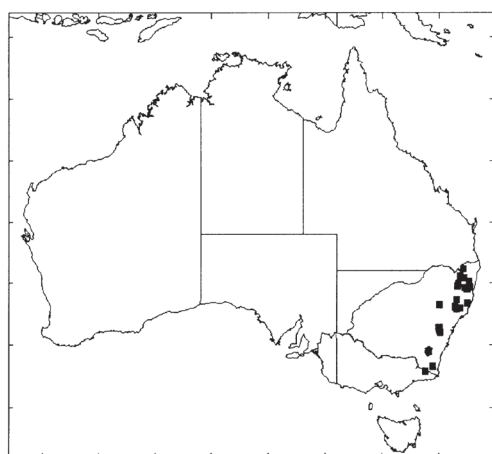


Fig. 48. *Griseargiolestes eboracus*.

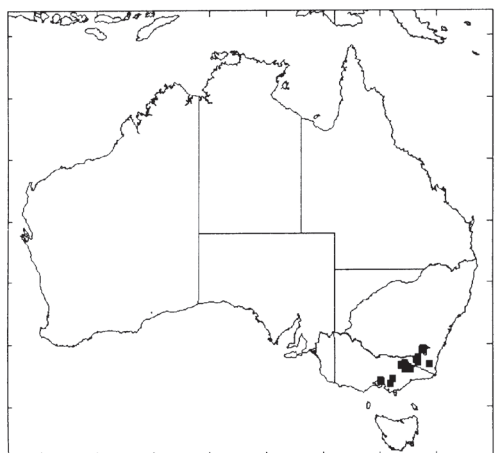


Fig. 49. *Griseargiolestes intermedius*.

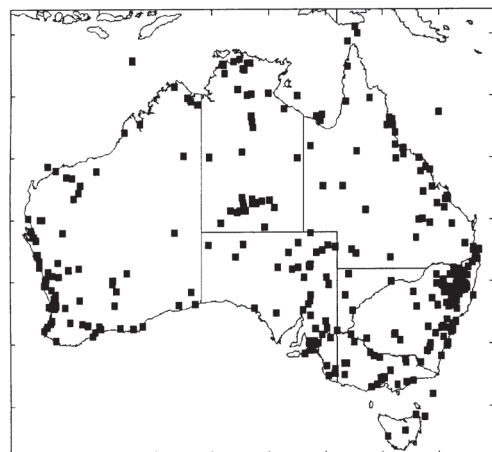


Fig. 50. *Hemianax papuensis*.

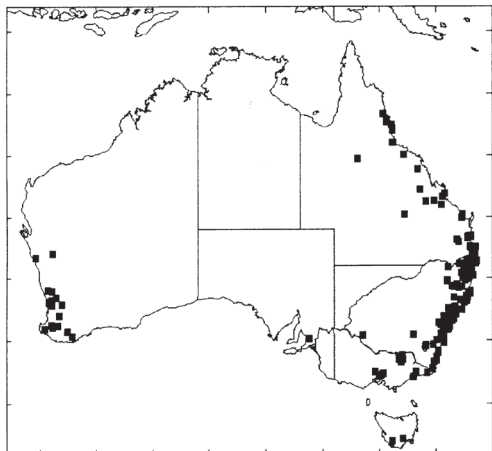


Fig. 51. *Hemicordulia australiae*.

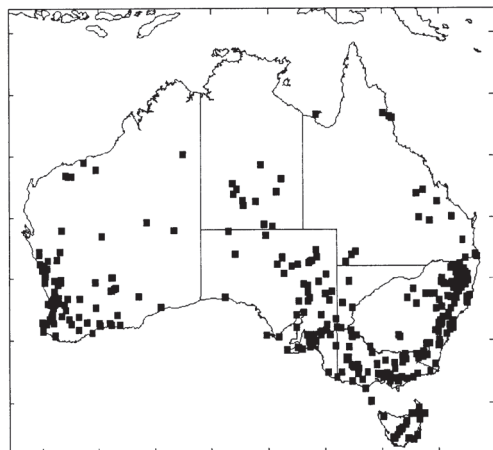


Fig. 52. *Hemicordulia tau*.

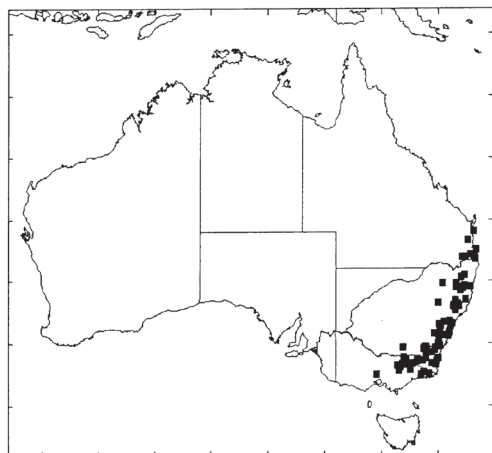


Fig. 53. *Hemigomphus gouldii*.

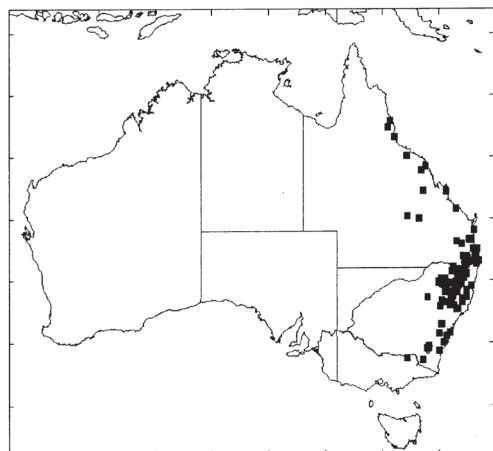


Fig. 54. *Hemigomphus heteroclytus*.

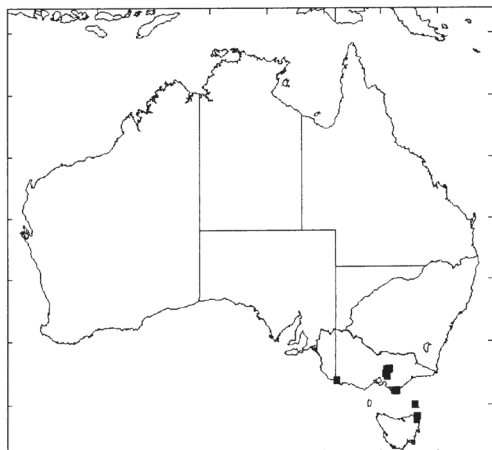


Fig. 55. *Hemiphysalis mirabilis*.

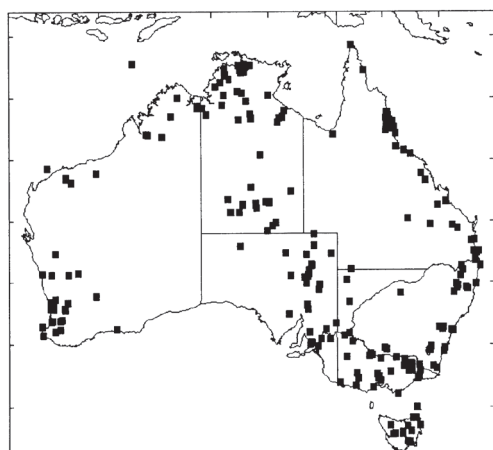


Fig. 56. *Ischnura aurora*.

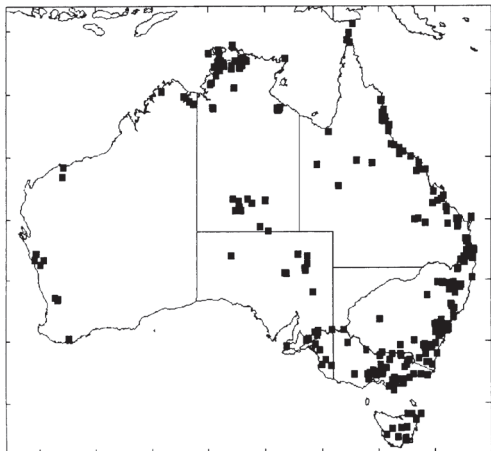


Fig. 57. *Ischnura heterosticta*.

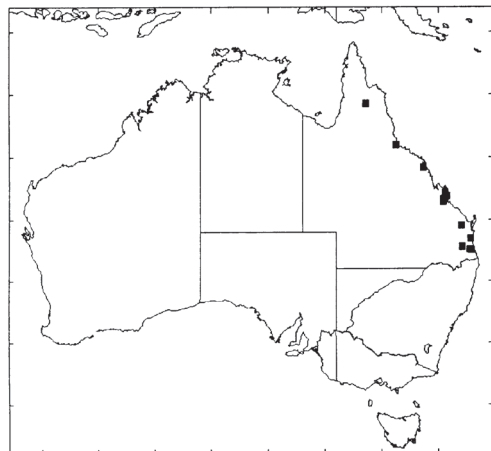


Fig. 58. *Labidosticta vallisii*.

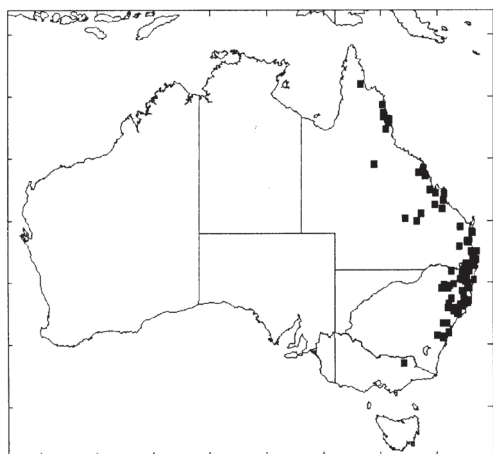


Fig. 59. *Nannophlebia risi*.

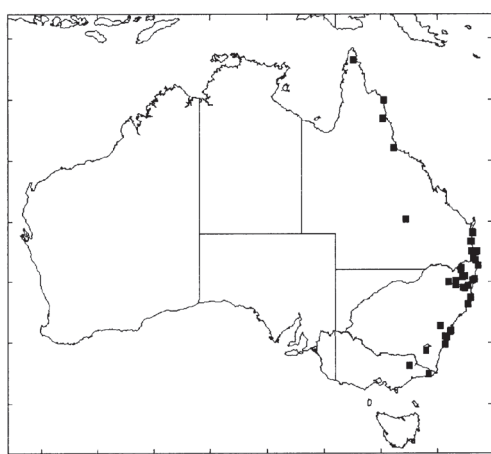


Fig. 60. *Nannophya australis*.

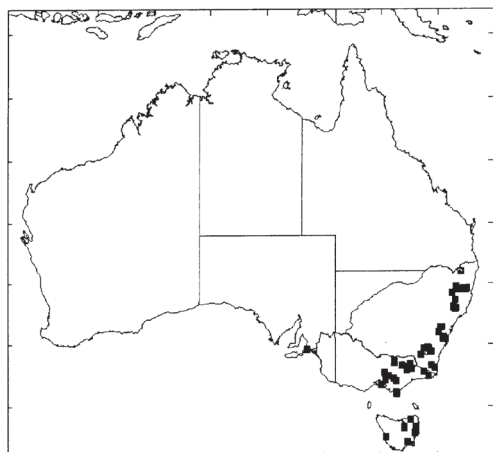


Fig. 61. *Nannophya dalei*.

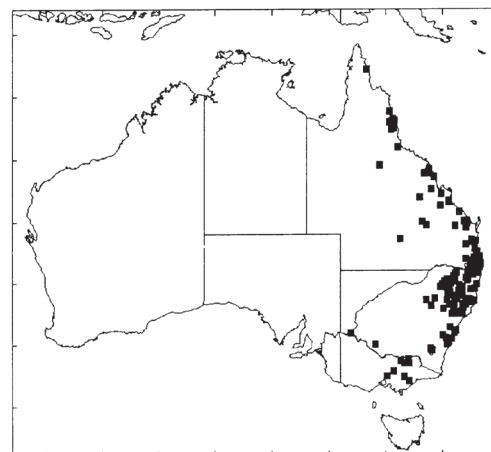


Fig. 62. *Nososticta solida*.

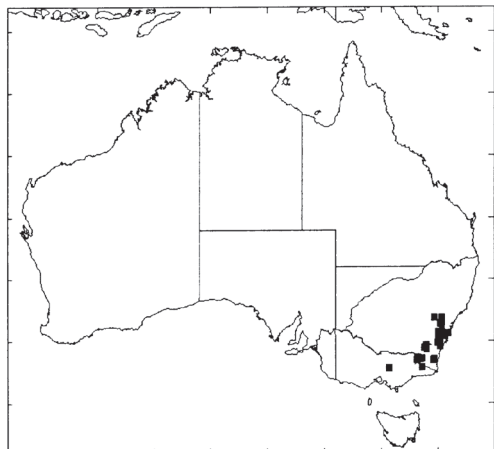


Fig. 63. *Notoaeschna sagittata*.

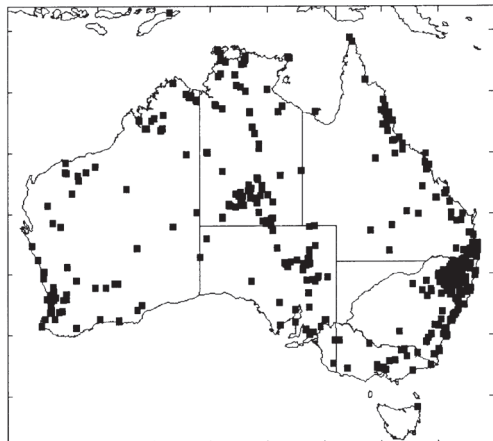


Fig. 64. *Orthetrum caledonicum*.

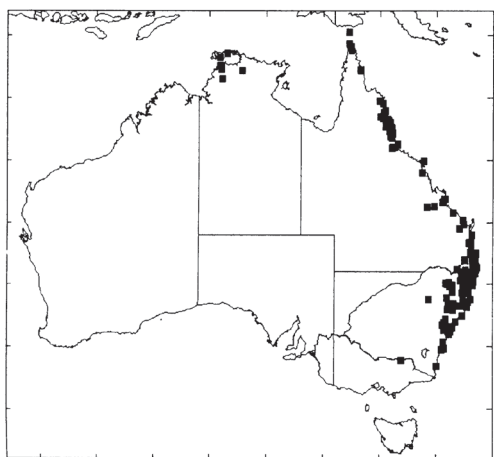


Fig. 65. *Orthetrum villosovittatum*.

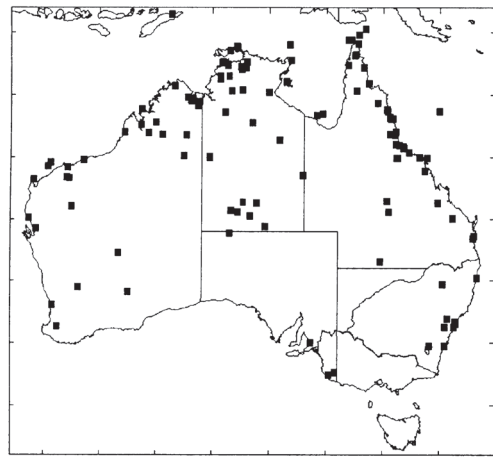


Fig. 66. *Pantala flavescens*.

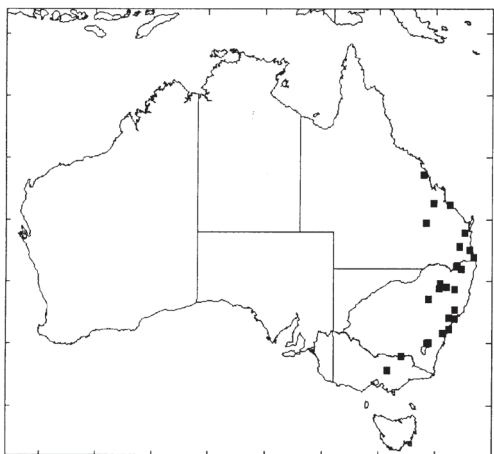


Fig. 67. *Parasyntemis regina*.

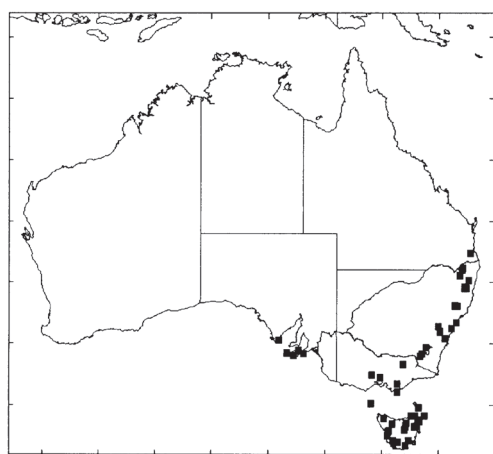


Fig. 68. *Procordulia jacksoniensis*.

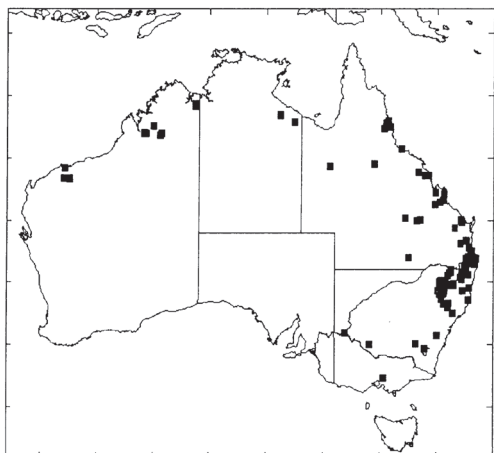


Fig. 69. *Pseudagrion aureofrons*.

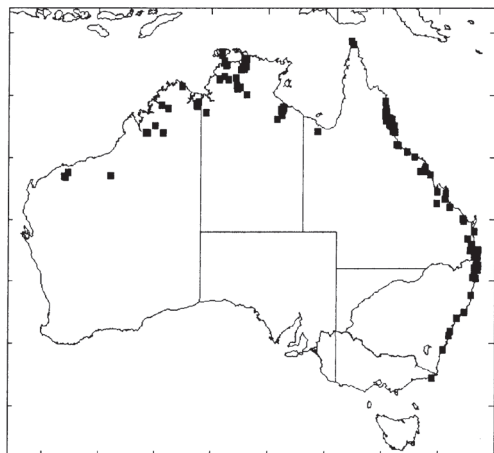


Fig. 70. *Pseudagrion microcephalum*.

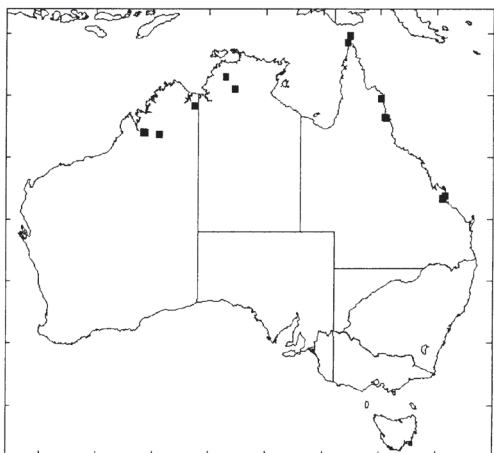


Fig. 71. *Rhadinosticta banksi*.

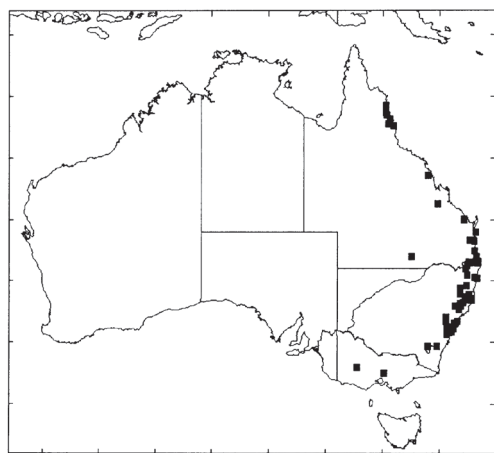


Fig. 72. *Rhadinosticta simplex*.

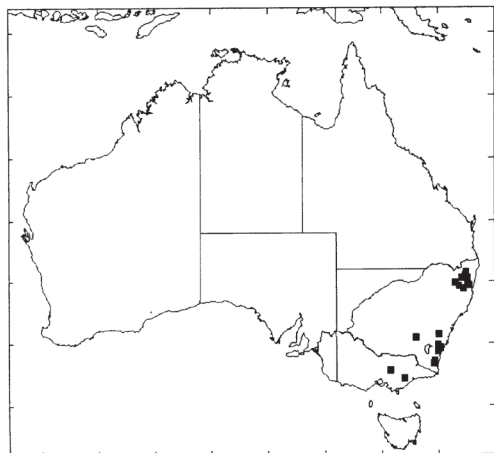


Fig. 73. *Spinaeschna tripunctata*.

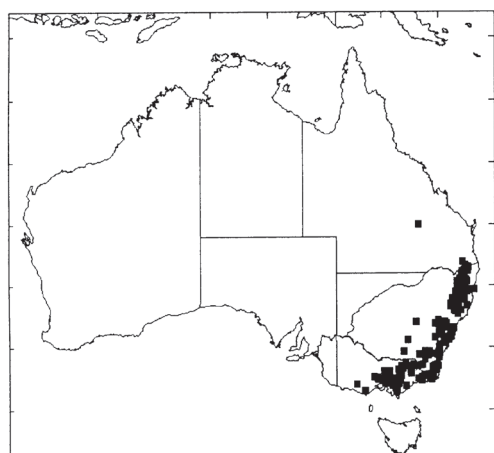
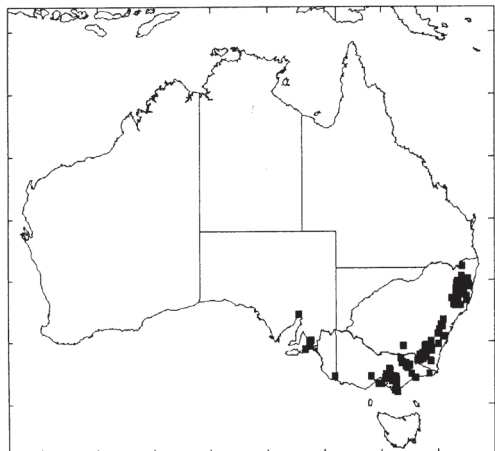
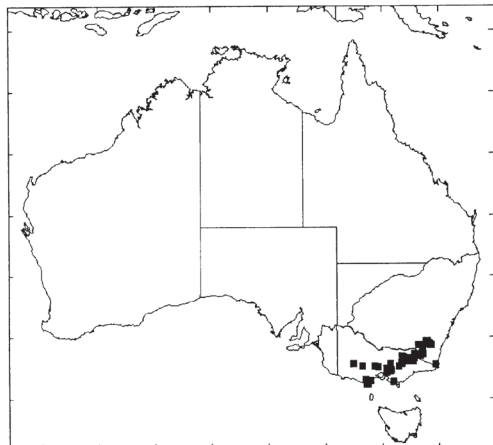
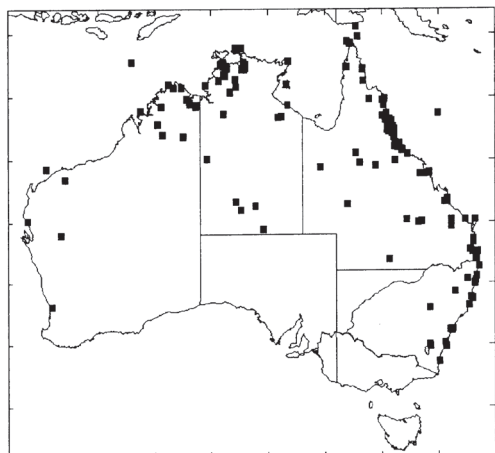
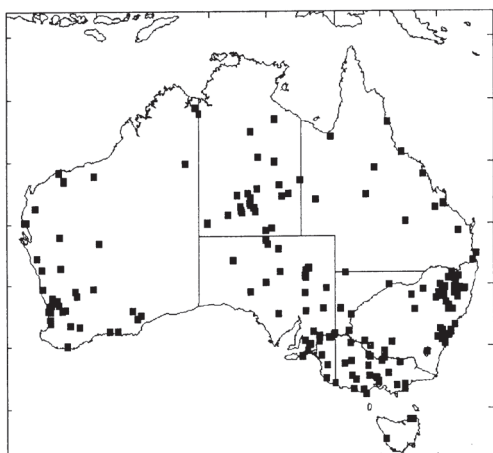


Fig. 74. *Synlestes weyersii*.

Fig. 75. *Synthemis eustalacta*.Fig. 76. *Telephlebia brevicauda*.Fig. 77. *Tramea loewii*.Fig. 78. *Xanthagrion erythroneurum*.

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