Ozeoura—a New Genus of Chioneinae (Insecta: Diptera: Tipuloidea: Limoniidae) from Australia

Gunther Theischinger1,2*, Zacariah D. Billingham3,4 and Ivor Growns5

1 Australian Museum Research Institute, Australian Museum, 1 William Street, Sydney NSW 2010, Australia
2 Water Science, Office of Environment and Heritage, NSW Department of Planning and Environment, PO Box 29, Lidcombe NSW 1825, Australia
3 Water Sciences, Natural Resources and Heritage, GHD, 180 Lonsdale Street, Melbourne Vic. 3000, Australia
4 Department of Ecology, Environment and Evolution, La Trobe University, Bundoora Vic. 3086, Australia
5 School of Environmental and Rural Science, University of New England NSW 2351, Australia

theischingergunther@gmail.com

Abstract. Ozeoura g. nov. (subfamily Chioneinae, family Limoniidae) is established for nine Australian species, four previously known species and five newly described here: Ozeoura billeang sp. nov., O. bonelya sp. nov., O. lottheggi sp. nov. and O. narahdarn sp. nov., all from tropical Queensland, and O. dingo sp. nov. from northeastern New South Wales. The taxonomy of Ozeoura is discussed, a key for separating males is presented and the larval and pupal stages are described and figured.

Keywords. Ozeoura; new genus; Diptera; Tipuloidea; Limoniidae; freshwater ecosystem.

This paper proposes a new genus, Ozeoura g. nov., to receive four species of Australian chioneine limoniid crane flies, previously included in Baeoura Alexander, 1924 along with an additional five species described as new. Ozeoura is endemic to Australia, primarily occurring in the east along the Great Dividing Range, with a single species present in Tasmania (Fig. 1). They are rather rarely encountered, generally in close proximity to waterways in forested areas (Figs 2, 3) of alpine and temperate and tropical rainforest environments.

Ozeoura (Fig. 4) is morphologically similar to the New World genus Cryptolabis Osten Sacken, 1860 and to Baeoura, a genus virtually restricted to the Old World. Together the three genera likely constitute a closely related...