

National Institute of Entomology NEWS

Issue 1: No 2
July 2025
entoinsitute.org



FROM THE DIRECTOR



Here is our July 2025 Edition of National Institute of Entomology News...our second edition.

For the next few issues of NIOE News, we will be covering some of the more interesting news items from the past few years in case some readers missed out on these events.

However, we will also cover our recent news and events so that our readers are up to date on events and happenings here at the institute. This should make for some interesting reading for you all.

The courses we offer are attracting more and more students not only from Australia but from overseas as well. Because of this amount of interest, we have started listing our programs in other international on line venues such as the Global School Network.

Our post students now number close to 300 and we are thrilled to be able to welcome them all as graduates.

Because of the growing popularity for our Courses and Programs, it has become a primary goal of securing a permanent site so that we can deliver our more on hands courses such as the Entomological Technicians Courses. More on that soon.

Thanks everyone.

Dr Bert Candusio

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People and Activities

LIVING FOSSIL REDISCOVERED



In early December 2021, a team from the National Institute of Entomology headed by its curator Bert Candusio and renown invertebrate seeker Trevor Glyn-Jones, went into a remote and heavily forested area of the Lerderderg State Park in order to search for one of the most elusive and curious oddities of the animal kingdom. This creature has remained virtually unchanged for over 540 million years and is known as the Peripatus or Velvet Worm. [More...](#)

ONGOING RESEARCH PROJECT



Dr Jenny Shield and Dr Bert Candusio are currently working on the documentation of the Insects and Spiders of North Central Victoria with the following goals:

To document the insects and spiders of Central Victoria one group at a time (cont...)

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Cont...

Short term aims:

1. To document the Hymenoptera (Ants and Wasps) and the ant-mimicing spiders: Zodariidae (Ant-eating spiders).
2. Description of undescribed species. Many species of Australian Zodariidae have been described in recent years by Dr Barbara Baehr and others. Yet there are still undescribed species in Central Victoria. This will involve taxonomic work and description of these currently undescribed species and publishing them in taxonomic journals and/or collaborating with other entomologists/arachnologists who are working on these groups to have them described.
3. Database based on the specimens in the collection to begin to define where each species occurs and publish online.
4. Photographic documentation of each species. [More...](#)

C.V.R.I.C COLLECTION FULL OF SURPRISES



Some Preliminary Findings from our ant collections are interesting:

Of the genus *Camponotus*, we have 17 species so far:

Camponotus ceriseipes, *C. ephippium*, *C. suffusus*, *C. suffusus bendigensus*, *C. rubiginosus*, *C. nigroaeneus*, *C. tricoloratus*, *C. guidae*, *C. consobrinus*, *C. claripes*, *C. innexus*, *C. evae*, *C. nigriceps*, *C. piliventris*, *C. wiederkehri_group* and a further two undescribed species....

This is an amazing diversity for just one genera.!

[More...](#)

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OUR FIRST GRADUATES



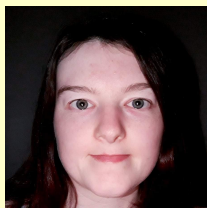
Congratulations to our graduates of the Ecology and Identification of the Ants of the Macedon Ranges Course 2021. (Andrej Hohmann, Kylie McGenniskin and Violet, Danielle Thyne, Megan Radford, Bronwyn Morris with Course Director Bert Candusio).

(Missing: Greg Cassidy, Jonathan Stephens, Darcy Dreja, Elyse Dixen)

The 6 week course covered early evolution of the Hymenoptera, Classification of Insect Orders, Ecology of the Formicidae, The Ant Castes, Collecting Methods, Specimen Preparation, Collection Curation, Identification to Sub Family Level and Databasing a Collection. This was such a successful course that another will be run in 2025. Congratulations Graduates!

(Note: Several Graduates couldnt attend Graduation Presentations due to the severe weather experienced that evening.) [More...](#)

Volunteer Spotlight – Ms Amber Glyn-Jones



Amber is the Institutes Data Entry Officer and plays a vital role in compiling the vast taxonomic lists needed for documentation of species and specimens held in the collections. Amber has added literally thousands of individual Menu Items into the Institutes Database Software as well as adding all of the required classification Hierarchy Classes for all Insect Orders!!.

She is also an extensive writer, has an uncanny fluency of the English Language and may actually be a contender for the title of fastest and most accurate typist in the country!

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Program Updates

Announcements and information regarding current, new and future planned Courses and Programs will be added here each month.

Insect Morphology – Module 2 NIOE-12M



Wednesday August 14th

Module 2 of this 2 week course delves into more detail of the Morphology of the Insect and introduces the student to the various Taxonomic Terms used in species identifications. The external morphology will be covered to a greater extent compared to Module 1 and will look at the variability, adaptability and functions of each insect feature. The head (Week 1), Thorax and Abdomen (Week 2) will be examined and discussed in detail. [More...](#)

The Ants – An Introduction – NIOA 01A O/L



September 2025

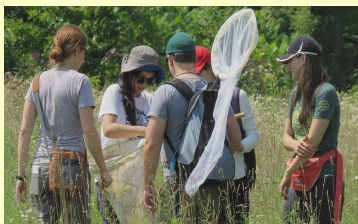
This specialized course will introduce you to The Ants (Formicidae) and offers an overview of their evolution, ecology, behavior and species diversity. The 6 week course will cover early evolution of the Hymenoptera, Classification of the Ants, Ecology, The Ant Castes, Collecting Methods, Specimen Preparation, Collection Labeling, Dichotomous Keys for Identification, Identification to common Sub Family Levels, Data Basing and Maintaining a Collection. [More...](#)

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The National Junior Bug Club - NIOE-02B



Every Wednesdays

For all the kids out there fascinated with insects and other micro critters, this is the group for you!! We'll meet On-Line every Tuesdays during School Terms 1-4 to learn and talk about all things insect. Students will learn how to study and collect them, how to start their own proper insect collections and begin an amazing journey of discovery into the world of insects and their relatives. [More...](#)

Teachers Insect Module - NIOE-120



Personal Training Module By Demand 2025.

Primary School Teachers about to undertake the insect study unit for their students will find this 3 part course invaluable.

We will cover simple and effective methods to assist your students in collecting specimens for later study in the classroom as well as interesting and engaging ways to put together follow-up projects after your students have collected their specimens.

The course will also cover Insect Classification and Biology, Methods for Preparing a Collection and Classroom Study Methods. This will be a 3 part Personal Development Course targeted towards Primary School Teaching Staff and will be delivered once per week during convenient early evening hours.

Monthly Specimen Spotlight



Spp Number 000464:

Senostoma macquart, 1847

DIPTERA / Dexiinae

Collection Date: 30 December 2021}

Collected by: B Candusio

Location: Woodend North, Victoria.

37° 20' 21.55" S

144° 32' 10.20" E

Senostoma is a genus of parasitoid tachinid flies in the family Tachinidae. Endemic to Australasia, the flies are medium-sized, bristly, and usually long-legged. Adult members of the genus have bristly bodies and long, thin legs.

Their size is generally in the range of 10 to 12mm, making them medium-sized within the family, as measurements for tachinids span from 2mm to 20mm. Mouthparts are distinctively elongated and narrow. Limited information suggests that *Senostoma* colourings are usually at the nondescript end of tachinid fly variation, with at least a few species being light grey and brown.

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Student Equipment Discounts

All our Students qualify for a 10% discount of any products from Australian Entomological Supplies Pty Ltd.

AES has been our main supporter for many years and constantly provided material and financial support for all of you current and past students. [More...](#)

2025 National Insect Expo Tickets



Now entering its fourth year, this event attracts exhibitors from all over the country as well as overseas, to showcase to the public, exciting and unique displays pertaining to insects, insect research, entomological collections, insect based crafts and artworks.

The National Insect Expo is usually held around the last week of third term school holidays and features Entomologists, Insect Researchers, Breeders, Spider and Scorpion Keepers, Insect Educators and Specialist Insect Retailers. [Tickets](#)

Advertising

If you would like to advertise in our newsletter, please contact the Institute before the 15th of each month on +61 3 7038 9452 or email us at admin@entoinstitute.org