

Hexathelidae: Hexathelinae

Total length

Medium to large (4–30mm) (Figs 1-2).

Distribution

Queensland, New South Wales, Victoria, Tasmania, Australian Capital Territory (Fig. 3).

Habitat

Temperate rainforest, open eucalyptus forest.

Spinnerets

(Fig. 4) **Six**. PLS segments equal in length; **apical segment digitiform**. **ALS smaller than PMS**

Cephalothorax

Caput of females gently raised, higher than thoracic portion; fovea of females more or less straight.

Eyes eight; group tiny, about 0.3 of headwidth; two rows; rows equal in width; on tubercle.

Chelicerae (Figs 5-6) fangs longitudinal; **retromargin with three or more teeth**; middle row of teeth distinct; intercheliceral tumescence in male absent; rastellum absent.

Maxillae anterior lobe small, indistinct; serrula a wide band; cuspsules in female numerous, dense, clustered at anterior inner corner.

Labium wider than long; **cuspsules few or numerous, dense**; in broad group.

Sternum with three pairs of sigilla.

Legs

Preening combs on metatarsi absent; tarsi with filiform trichobothria.

Claws (Fig. 7) **three; paired claws with one row of teeth centrally**; third claw dentate; tufts absent.

Scopula absent (Fig. 8).

Male Palp

Cymbium aspinose and ascopulate. Bulb pyriform with or without apophyses. Tibial apophysis absent or retroventral.

Genera included

Bymainiella, *Paraembolides*, *Teranodes*.



Fig. 1. *Teranodes montana*, female.



Fig. 2. Adult male *Paraembolides cannoni*.



Fig. 3. Distribution map.

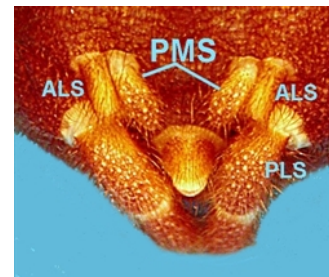


Fig. 4. Hexathelidae spinnerets.



Fig. 5. *Bymainiella lugubris* prolateral surface of a male chelicera; note lack of intercheliceral tumescence.

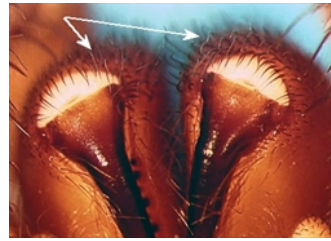


Fig. 6. *Bymainiella* sp. ventral aspect of chelicerae; note rastellum absent.



Fig. 7. *Bymainiella lugubris* lateral aspect of tarsus showing three claws.



Fig. 8. *Bymainiella lugubris* leg I without scopula.

