

separated on details of sculpture, color, pilosity, or proportion of head, antennal scapes, etc., all characters known to be variable within species.

For example, *O. papuanus* may well be only a smooth-headed variant of *O. animosus*, paralleling the better-known variation in the Philippine vicariant, *O. infandus*. *O. banksi* could well be only a local morph of *O. infandus*, and *O. latissimus* a broad-headed variant of *O. animosus* (or *O. papuanus*). In fact, all of the members of the *infandus* group (except *O. silvestrii*) might be geographical representatives or morphs of one species.

Despite synonymy of several forms by Wilson and in this review, the *saevissimus* group almost certainly has more names left (5) than there are real species. It seems likely also that *O. ruficeps* should include *O. cephalotes*, and maybe *O. aciculatus* as well. A possibility exists that *O. latidens* is a tropical vicariant of *O. monticola*. At present, the material available, especially from such key areas as West Irian, the Moluccas and Celebes, is simply inadequate as a basis for decisions on these questions. Even allowing for a few undescribed species that may remain undiscovered in the area, I predict that the eventual count of valid species will not be much over 20 for the whole Indo-Australian region. This compares with the 20 species that Wilson recognized just for Melanesia.

I count 150 names of species, subspecies and varieties that have been proposed in, or transferred to *Odontomachus* up to the present, including the 7 species described as new herein. Of this total, one (*macrorhynchus*) is considered a *nomen nudum*, 6 have been transferred to *Anochetus* at one time or another, and 92 names are considered as synonyms of the remaining valid species in *Odontomachus*, which are 51 in number. Of these 51, perhaps 6 are doubtfully distinct (*cephalotes*, *papuanus*, *animosus*, *banksi*, *opaculus*, *montanus*), and it may even be that *monticola* and *latidens* belong to the same species. Thus, only about a third of the 150 names assigned to *Odontomachus* over more than two centuries seem now to represent biological species at the «morpho-species» level of distinction. Though undoubtedly there remain some real species yet to be discovered, both morphospecies and siblings, it is my feeling that the majority of existing *Odontomachus* species has by now been collected, described and named.

The 51 currently recognized species are distributed almost equally between the Old World (28) and the New (23). In the Old World, only 2 species occur in continental Africa, and one of these (*troglodytes*) extends to Madagascar, where an endemic (*coquereli*) also exists. The rest of the Old World complement is Indo-Australian, with the principal concentration of species in Melanesia, and particularly in New Guinea.

Odontomachus Species List

In Part VI, I have followed my practice of Part V (Brown 1975) in listing all of the species (subspecies, varieties) in each of the two genera that were originally described there, and all are included there now. Each name is treated as a species name, regardless of whether it was originally described as a species, subspecies, or variety, because I recognize only the species level as worthy of a formal name in the Linnean system. A whole