

TWIN CREEKS CONSERVATION RESERVE

FAUNA SURVEY JUNE 2021

FRIENDS OF THE PORONGURUP RANGE



Bo Janmaat
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Survey dates: June 10,11,12, 13 and 14 2021. Starting time: 7.30am.

Weather Conditions: Cold and wet winter days with temperatures ranging from 2 - 8 C in the mornings. Only one night without rain, skies from fully covered to clear blue, daytime temperatures around 15C. New moon on June 10.

About the traps: A total of 130 traps were opened on Wednesday June 9. Unfortunately traplines 7 and 8 they were inaccessible. Cage or Elliot traps were not used.

Total hours: 7 People were involved in the survey and a total of 98 hours spent during these 6 days.

Findings: Despite the cold weather and not a lot a flowering plants in the Heath and Melaleuca traplines area 4 and 5 the honey possums were still around and 3 were caught. All male and very healthy.

For the first time a white-footed frog has been found (*Neobatrachus albipes*), in TCCR.

The amount of spiders was overwhelming: 252. Many of them very small, up to 3-5mm. These small spiders are very hard to identify anyway and it is also hard to tell if they are full grown or juveniles without the right equipment.

All were caught in a pitfall trap meaning they probably are ground dwellers and probably hunting. The biggest spider family doing this are the Lycosidae, wolf spiders.

The rain activated the Portuguese millipedes, black shiny and thin, different from the native ones which are a bit rounder and fatter. You need to see them next to each other to see the difference.

Again the Black Gloved Wallaby has not been spotted during this survey. They like to hang around in the same area and was last spotted in October 2020.

The 'TCCR FAUNA COUNT OVERVIEW' sheet compares the results of this survey with surveys in the past.

A big thank you to the TEAM: Lucia Quearry, Garry Mulder, Loxley Fedec, Jacob Crowe, Jarvis Smallman and Judith McKinnon. And a very big thank you to the weather treating us very well! Images by Bo Janmaat.



Honey possum. Only males were caught, their skull sizes ranging from 22 to 26 mm and scrotum size ranging from 13 to 24mm. The small scrotum indicates they are probably juveniles, when about 6 months old their scrotum gets bigger because of sperm production.



Camponotus johnclarki. This ant was holding on to its egg all the time, didn't let go of it.



Platform spider or Long-Jawed Orb Weaver (*Corasoides occidentalis*) You can see the long fangs and big chelicerae (here red coloured) Body is 15mm long, overall 51mm.



Myrmecia mandibularis. A bull ant with a big head and a red ending abdomen. It has almost straight and smooth mandibles no big teeth only sharp at the very end. Body is 15mm long.



Larve of a darkling beetle - Subtribe Lagriina. It has 6 legs and is part of a large family of beetles called: Tenebrionidae (more than 20,000 species). 44 of these larvae were found all about 12mm long, not sure to what this one will grow.



Western Banjo frog or Pobblebonk (*Limnodynastes dorsalis*). Often different in colour and pattern but always red in the groin and a gland on the upper part of the leg. This one measured 53mm.



Ant-Like Stone Beetle - Subfamily Scymaeninae. These beetles are called 'ant-like' because they have a narrowing between head and thorax and thorax and abdomen. This specimen is a big one: 3mm

A tiny red velvet mite with white dots:
Family Trombididae.
5 Red velvet mites were found this time all very small about 1.5mm



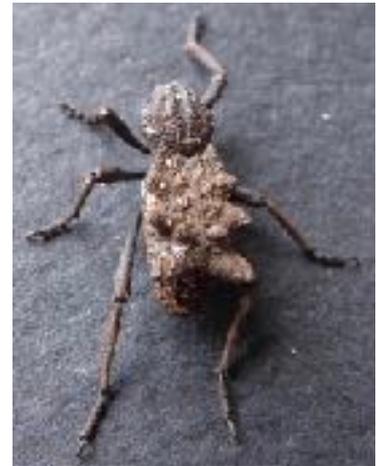


A true weevil of the genus *Catasarcus*. Weevils can be very different in appearance: with big or small 'nobs' on the abdomen, some 'corrugation', big or small in size, but they all have elongated snouts which can be long or short. Most of them can not fly and are just wandering around. Length: 7mm.

True weevil of the family Curculionidae.
Body length: 7mm



Another true weevil:
Melanegis stygius
11mm in length.



Rove beetle of the Tribe Lathrobiini. This critter is of the same family as the Ant-Like Stone Beetle: Family Staphylinidae one of the biggest families of living organisms



Artoria linnaei. A spider from the Wolf spider family (Lycosidae) Not a typical Wolf spider look with its two white dots on its abdomen, they often have lateral lines or markings on the abdomen. 7mm body length.