



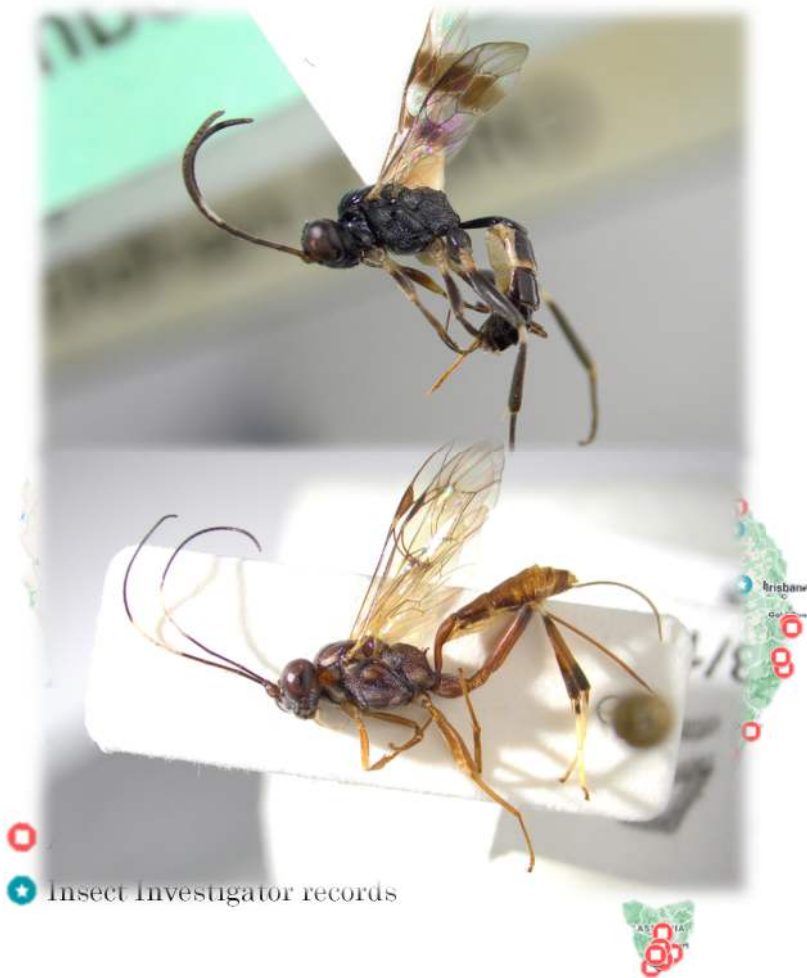
# Taxonomy and systematics of the parasitoid wasp genus *Paraphylax* (Phygadeuontinae: Ichneumonidae) in Australia.

Olivia Portmann



# Background:

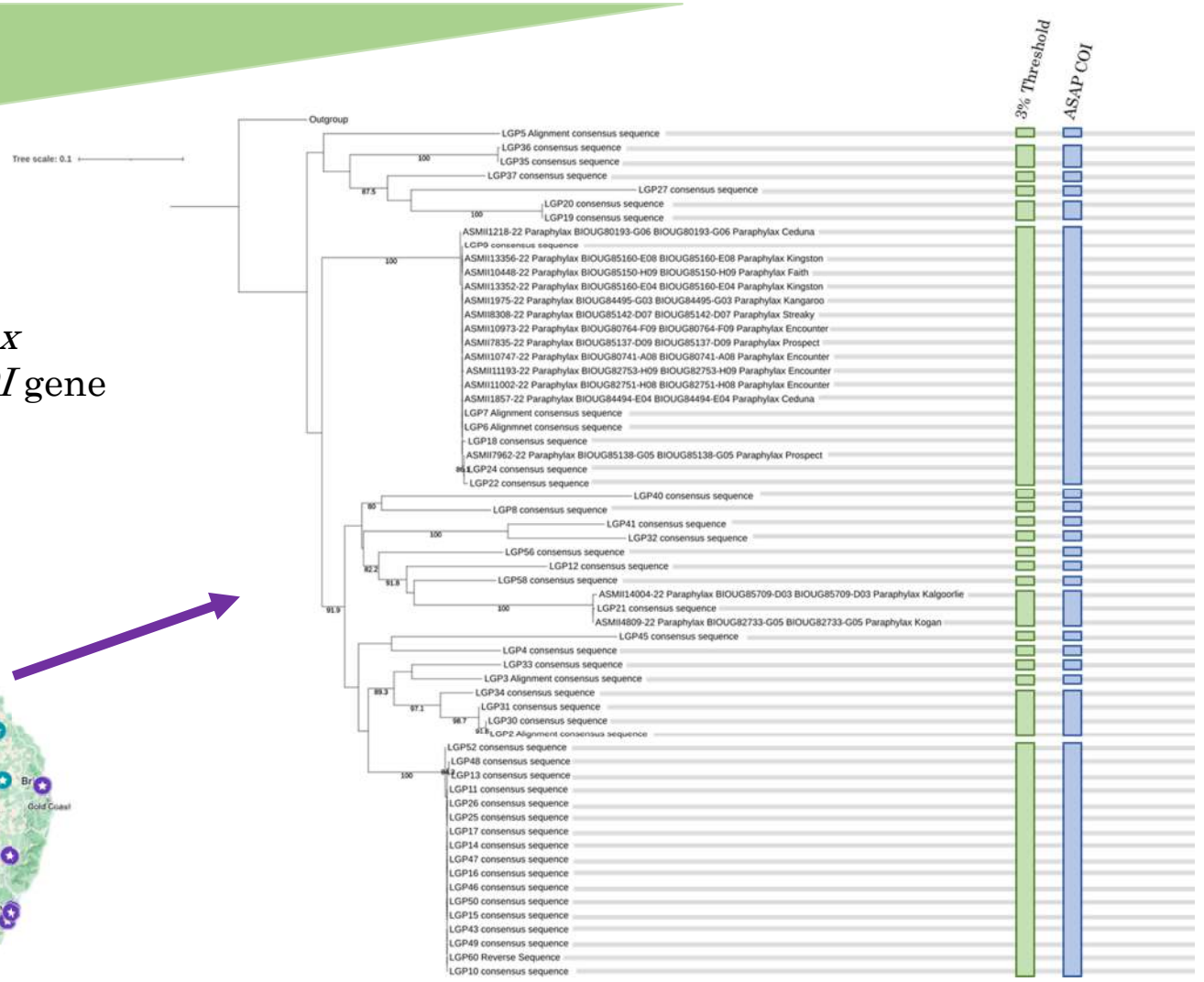
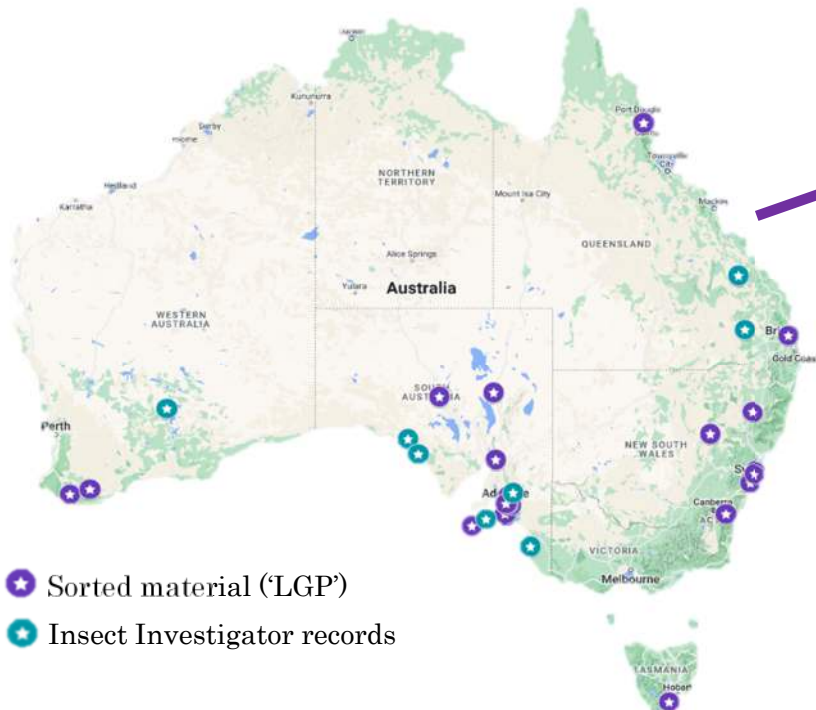
- *Paraphylax* (Phygadeuontinae; Ichneumonidae)
- Parasitoids with a **large range of hosts** – includes larvae of Lepidoptera & Diptera, spider egg sacs, **even other parasitoids!**
- Represented in Australia by **four species**
- 1) 49 morphologically distinct specimens identified to genus level by Ian Gauld  
Additional evidence suggests at least 50 undescribed species occur across Australia
- 2) ALA records of morphologically distinct *Paraphylax* specimens
- 3) Material collected through the citizen science initiative 'Insect Investigators'



● Insect Investigator records

# Initial Results:

- Sorted bulk material for *Paraphylax*
- Produced DNA barcodes for the *COI* gene

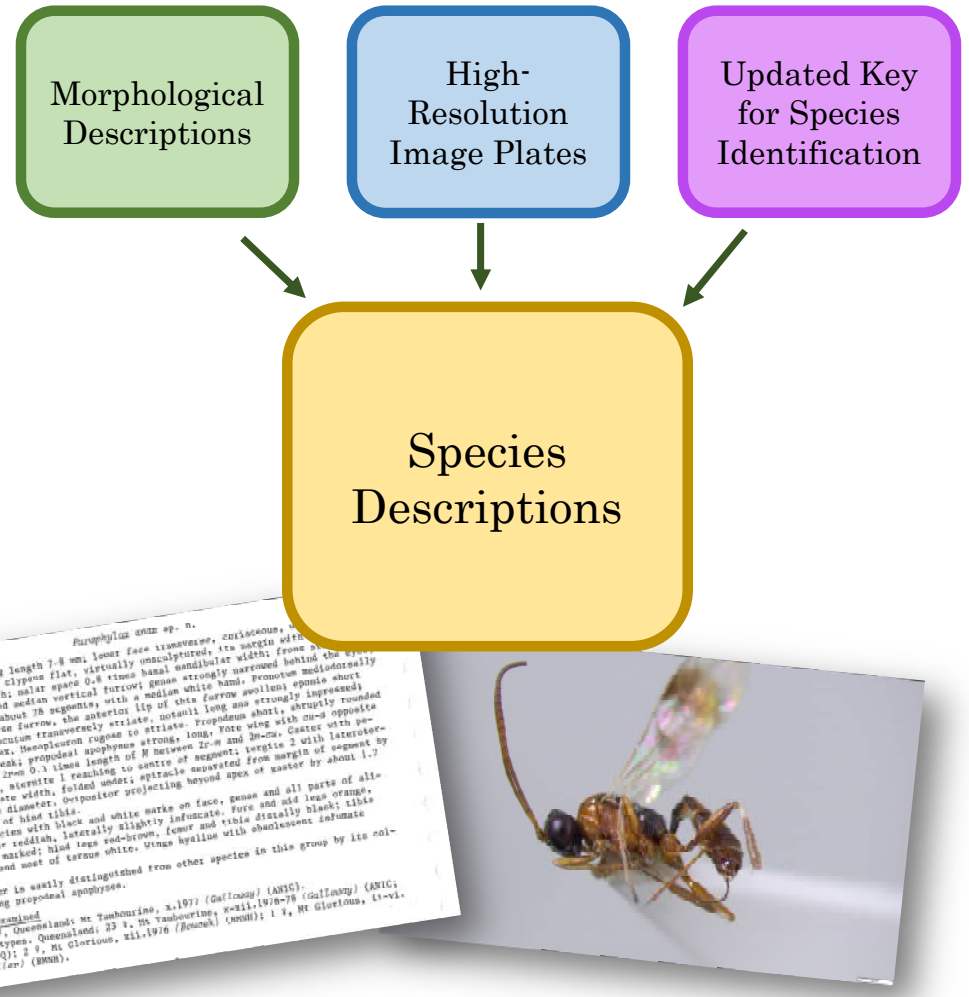


*21 putative species!*

# The Next Steps:

Incorporating additional lines of evidence for a stronger consensus:

- Sanger Sequencing nuclear *Wingless (Wg)* gene
- Morphological analysis, using putative species-groups as a guideline
- Compare specimens to *Paraphylax* type material (housed at ANIC)



### Special Thanks:

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