

The Seventh Waterbug Workshop

WBWVII

(an introduction to the taxonomic identification of freshwater invertebrates)

11th – 13th of April 2012

At the Zoology Laboratories Monash University, Melbourne

Who is the course for ?

Bug-nerds, community volunteers, natural resource managers, prospective and new Honours and PhD students, planning to work on aquatic invertebrates or wanting to acquire new skills, trained professionals in need of a refresher course, environmental health officers, EPA officers, naturalists, and fishermen who would like to find out more about this fascinating group of animals.

Kindly sponsored by:



Workshop Overview

The workshop is designed to give participants the skills for identifying aquatic macroinvertebrates. Participants will be taken through the common families of aquatic macroinvertebrates from the easiest to the hardest to identify.

Participants are encouraged to bring their own material to identify at the workshop...this will ensure the groups we cover are relevant to them.

We focus on the skills required to use taxonomic keys and laboratory equipment to enable participants to identify a wide range of invertebrate groups. The course material will include info on the ecology of the animals being studied, video footage, colour photographs and detailed schematics. Participants will also be taught how to calculate basic SIGNAL pollution scores.

The latest technology will be utilised to demonstrate the key identification features of each group as they are seen through the microscope. The course will include shortcuts, 'dead giveaways' and 'folklore' material that will make identifying waterbugs that much easier and so much more fun.

The primary text used is "The Waterbug Book" by Gooderham and Tsyrlin.



Workshop Presenters

Your workshop presenters will be John Gooderham, Edward Tsyrlin and Tom Sloane, who each have extensive experience in identifying invertebrates to the lowest taxonomic level and teaching a broad range of audiences.

Comments from previous years:

"Thanks guys for an awesome workshop. Thoroughly enjoyed [it] and met some great 'bug-minded' people from across the country.."

"Great workshop – you guys put personality into what could be a very dull topic. Thanks for sharing your knowledge, skills and anecdotes."

"Thoroughly enjoyable and productive way to learn. Would highly recommend."

"Bloody fantastic. Don't change a thing. Great presenters. Majority practical which is the best. I will be taking pointers for my future training of staff..."

For more details and updates visit:

www.thewaterbug.net

Waterbug Workshop Schedule

Day 1	11 April
9:00	REGISTRATION & MORNING COFFEE
9:30	Introduction to macroinvertebrates, their importance in the freshwater ecosystem and how they can be used as indicators of ecological health. Brief intro to the equipment....
10:30	MORNING TEA
11:00	We will work through the key to the major groups of waterbugs, explaining terminology and how to use a taxonomic key.
12:00	BREAK FOR LUNCH (BBQ?)
1:00	Start sorting the samples into coarse taxonomic groups to ID to family later
3:00	AFTERNOON TEA
3:30	Continue working through the major groups of invertebrates.
4:45	A quick review of what participants have learnt during the day.

Accommodation

People travelling from interstate can stay near Monash University at accommodation available close to the campus.

A range of options exist in and around Clayton, but it is worth checking how close they are on [Google maps](#).

Day 2	12 April
9:00	A recap of Day 1 Stoneflies and Mayflies (Plecoptera & Ephemeroptera).
10:30	MORNING TEA
11:00	True bugs (Hemiptera).
12:00	BREAK FOR LUNCH
1:00	Damselflies and dragonflies (Odonata).
3:00	AFTERNOON TEA
3:30	Shrimps, prawns and sideswimmers (Crustacea).
4:45	A quick review of what participants have learnt during the day.
Day 3	13 April
9:00	A recap of Day 2 Caddisflies (Trichoptera).
10:30	MORNING TEA
11:00	Beetles (Coleoptera).
12:00	BREAK FOR LUNCH
1:00	Beetle larvae (Coleoptera).
3:00	AFTERNOON TEA
3:30	Fly larvae (Diptera).
4:45	A quick review of what participants have learnt and a test to prove it.
Sometime later	Discussions and reflections at "The Nott" (a local watering hole).

Dates and Venue

The workshop will be held from 11th – 13th of April at the Clayton campus of Monash University – in the Zoology Labs, Building 18, first floor. See the map on the web:

<http://www.monash.edu.au/campuses/clayton.html>

Cost and Registration dead line

The cost is \$484 including GST.

The registration dead line is :

14th of March 2012

payment should be finalised by the 30th of March 2012, or your place will be offered to someone on the waiting list. (sounds agro ...but it is always a bit rubbish if we have a waiting list and someone is a no-show).

The cost covers morning and afternoon teas, lunch can be bought from the nearby union building.

Payment can be made by direct deposit to:

The Waterbug Company Pty Ltd
BSB: **06 7028**
Acc No: **1026 4469**
Bank: **The Commonwealth Bank**

or money order / cheque made out to:
The Waterbug Company - and mailed to :
John Gooderham, 47 Pottery Road,
Lenah Valley, 7008, TASMANIA.

Contact us and register before you start the payment process, just to make sure you have a place. We have an ABN number (**96 152 292 325**) and are registered to collect GST.

Ordering Equipment and texts

The following text can be purchased for use at the workshop. If you order it with your registration (tick the relevant box), we'll have it available for you at the start of the course. There will be course notes and forceps provided.

The Waterbug Book: a guide to the freshwater macroinvertebrates of Temperate Australia. J Gooderham & E Tsylin, (2002)	\$45 (GST included) <input type="checkbox"/>
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MDFRC texts

In previous years, we have sold a selection of MDFRC taxonomic keys as well.....not this year, but we do still highly recommend them. They can be bought directly from the MDFRC through the following website:

http://www.mdfrc.org.au/publications/images/taxonomy_guide_list1.pdf

My favourites are taxonomic guides: 7, 50, 46, 43 and 40.

If you have any of them already they are well worth bringing along.

Still not enough bugs?

try *DEATH BY BUGS* Tuesday April 10th. (same venue)

A day of intense bug-learning, Bring Bugs you are struggling to ID and we'll help you with them, or you can wrestle with one from Tom's "bucket - o - bugs", a sample so taxonomically diverse it will blow your mind ...and you probably won't finish itbut we'll help you as much as we can. Death By Bugs is the quickest way to get your bug knowledge back in shape (if you haven't had practice for a while), or to capitalise on us if you have a back-log of unknown beasts in a draw in the lab ...and you really want names for them.

...you can do both the workshop and Death by Bugs.

contact John to book a place Cost \$110 (including GST)

Registration

Please send the following info in an email to john:

flatworm@ozemail.com.au

Name:	
Title:	
Organization:	
Address:	
City, State	
Telephone:	
Fax:	
Email:	
Bug experience: (in two words)	

Enquiries: **John Gooderham**

Telephone: 0447 893 519



The Waterbug Company