

# Scandinavian entomologists 5 – Karlis Princis

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A short biography of Karlis Princis (1893-1978) is given by Lindroth. A complete list of his entomological publications is compiled by Gurney together with a list of the 62 new genera and 365 new species described by Princis.

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Karlis Aleksander Princis was born in Venta, near Ventspils, Latvia 11.X.1893. His academic education was obtained at the University of Riga, after an interruption caused by military service in the Russian Army during World War I. His master's degree was conferred in 1934. He was appointed docent in zoology in 1940, Director of the Zoological Institute the following year, and of the Museum of Natural History in Riga in 1942.

Princis left his country in 1944 and arrived as a refugee in Sweden. Fortunately, he almost immediately contacted Professor N. A. Kemner, Lund University, who arranged a working place for him as an assistant – though with a deplorably low economic support from the Swedish Government – at the Department of Entomology, Zoological Institute. He was fully active in this position until long after normal retirement age. However, the health of his respiratory organs steadily deteriorated and for medical reasons he and his wife Lucia moved in 1973 to prov. Västmanland in central Sweden. He died in the hospital of Västerås, 25.III.1978.

Karl Princis' first publication (1932) treated Orthopteroid insects and to them he devoted his entire scientific life. So long as he remained in Latvia he studied exclusively the fauna of his home country. But following the move to Sweden in 1944, his interests widened geographically and eventually covered virtually the whole world. At the same time he felt it necessary to concentrate on a single group, and he chose the cockroaches (Blattariae). A long and steady series of revisionary taxonomic contributions resulted.

In the early 1960's Princis received grant funds from the National Science Foundation in the

United States, and he visited Washington and Philadelphia on two visits (1960, 1962), for the purpose of studying the systematics of the cockroaches of eastern Asia, especially the Philippine Islands. Although no monographs resulted directly, it is evident that those studies and correlated examination of various collections of type specimens contributed greatly to his understanding of the world cockroach fauna.

Princis' masterpiece was the Blattariae part of Junk's Orthopterorum Catalogus (ed. M. Beier), which appeared in 8 volumes (1962-1970) totaling 1224 pages and covering the entire world fauna of living (i.e., recent) cockroaches. It is by no means an ordinary taxonomic catalogue, but also includes a most careful compilation of all literature dealing with biology, economic importance, and other aspects of these insects. This catalogue is now used by all serious students of Blattarian taxonomy, as well as many workers concerned with other aspects, and its value will continue for innumerable decades to come.

In recognition of his outstanding work, Karlis Princis received the degree Ph. D. *honoris causa* at the University of Lund in 1964, and he was awarded the Linné Prize of Zoology by the Royal Physiographic Society of Lund in 1971.

Karlis Princis had the stately, erect stature of a soldier and behaved as the perfect gentleman, not without a good sense of humor. His interests ran far outside his specialty, and he was a regular attendant of the entomological seminars of the Zoological Institute, where he contributed many well founded opinions on general biology during numerous informal discussions, thereby encouraging young students. He was a dear and modest friend to all of us.

Carl H. Lindroth

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*Genera, species, subspecies, and new species names proposed by Princis*

Compiled by Ashley B. Gurney and R. Danielsson

- 1946a *Kemneria* Princis, 1946:146  
*Kemneria colombiana* Princis, 1946:147 (1)

- Plectoptera althenae* Princis, 1946:148 (1)  
*Lamproblatta flavomaculata* Princis, 1946:149 (1)  
*Epilampra anderi* Princis, 1946:153 (1)  
*Riatia hebardii* Princis, 1946:156 (1)  
1946b *Hemiblabera roseni* Princis, 1946:159 (1)  
*Monastria flavomarginata* Princis, 1946:162 (1)  
*Hormetica kemneri* Princis, 1946:164 (1)  
1946c *Blaberus boliviensis* Princis, 1946:143 (2)  
1947a *Metablatta* Princis, 1947:57  
*Melanosilpha carlgreni* Princis, 1947:55 (1)  
1948a *Incoblatta* Princis, 1948:13  
*Ectodromica* Princis, 1948:21  
*Chorisoneura lineatifrons* Princis, 1948:3 (2)  
*Plectoptera subporcellana* Princis, 1948:4 (2)  
*Calhypnorna boliviensis* princis, 1948:6 (2)  
*Epilampra taracuae* Princis, 1948:11 (2)  
*Litoblatta paraguayensis* Princis, 1948:13 (2)  
*Pseudomops picea* Princis, 1948:16 (2)  
*Pseudomops boliviensis* Princis, 1948:17 (2)  
1948b *Pseudosigmella* Princis, 1948:55  
*Pseudosigmella spinostylata* Princis, 1948:56 (3)  
1949a *Epilampra thunbergi* Princis, 1949:65  
New name (4)  
1949b *Eustegaster rhodesiana* Princis, 1949:68 (5)  
1949d *Hanstromia* Princis, 1949:153  
*Miothyrocera* Princis, 1949:156  
*Hanstromia capensis* Princis, 1949:154 (6)  
*Duchailluia hanstromi* Princis, 1949:154 (1)  
1950a *Eublattella* Princis, 1950:215  
*Mopserina* Princis, 1950:218  
*Chorisoneura punctipennis* Princis, 1950:208 (2)  
*Chorisoneura shanensis* Princis, 1950:208 (2)  
*Audreia (?) malaisei* Princis, 1950:210 (2)  
*Rhabdoblatta birmanica* Princis, 1950:211 (2)  
*Blattella confusa* Princis, 1950:215 (2)  
*Blattella subcognata* Princis, 1950:216 (2)  
*Symploce malaisei* Princis, 1950:217 (2)  
1950b *Ateloblatta natvigii* Princis, 1950:131 (7)  
1950c *Sinablatta* Princis, 1950:177  
*Euhanitschia* Princis, 1950:178  
*Composilpha* Princis, 1950:180  
*Diploptera erythrocephala* Princis, 1950:163 (1)  
*Periplaneta quadrinotata* Princis, 1950:169 (1)  
*Blattella kemneri* Princis, 1950:175 (1)  
*Blattella anderi* Princis, 1950:176 (1)  
*Sinablatta brunnea* Princis, 1950:177 (1)  
*Onychostylus subnotulatus* Princis, 1950:182 (1)  
*Hemithyrocera piceicollis* Princis, 1950:183 (1)  
*Dyakina antennata* Princis, 1950:185 (1)  
1951b *Pseudoglomeris willemsei* Princis, 1951:93 (8)  
1951c *Mesoblaberus* Princis, 1951:5  
*Eumethana* Princis, 1951:22  
*Hanitschella* Princis, 1951:50  
*Chorisia* Princis, 1951:51  
*Blattellina* Princis, 1951:58  
*Neotemnopteryx* Princis, 1951:61  
*Shawella* Princis, 1951:61  
*Dyakinodes* Princis, 1951:66  
*Mesoblaberus intermedius* Princis, 1951:6 (9)  
*Panchlora hebardii* Princis, 1951:8 (9)  
*Panchlora heterocercata* Princis, 1951:10 (9)  
*Panchlora itabirae* Princis, 1951:10 (9)  
*Panchlora panchlora* Princis, 1951:11 (9)  
*Panesthia galathea* Princis, 1951:13 (9)  
*Panesthia pygmaea* Princis, 1951:14 (9)  
*Salganea aequaliterspinosa* Princis, 1951:15 (9)  
*Chorisoneura similis* Princis, 1951:16 (9)  
*Chorisoneura meinerti* Princis, 1951:17 (9)  
*Chorisoneura albifrons* Princis, 1951:18 (9)  
*Chorisoneura janeirensis* Princis, 1951:19 (9)  
*Chorisoneura annulicornis* Princis, 1951:20 (9)  
*Plectoptera insularis* Princis, 1951:21 (9)  
*Eumethana sumatrensis* Princis, 1951:22 (9)  
*Dorylaea zeylanica* Princis, 1951:23 (9)  
*Periplaneta ebneri* Princis, 1951:25 (9)  
*Periplaneta nasicornis* Princis, 1951:26 (9)  
*Periplaneta benzoni* Princis, 1951:26 (9)  
*Pseudoderopeltis simulans* Princis, 1951:28 (9)  
*Methana shawi* Princis, 1951:31 (9)  
*Epilampra tranquebarica* Princis, 1951:35 (9)  
*Rhabdoblatta ocellata* Princis, 1951:36 (9)  
*Dendroblatta gracilis* Princis, 1951:37 (9)  
*Lophometopum bivittatum* Princis, 1951:38 (9)  
*Cariblatta venezuelana* Princis, 1951:39 (9)  
*Rhytidometopum albomarginatum* Princis, 1951:41 (9)  
*Ischnoptera brachyptera* Princis, 1951:42 (9)  
*Ischnoptera fulvipennis* Princis, 1951:43 (9)  
*Ischnoptera spinostylata* Princis, 1951:44 (9)  
*Euphyllodromia venezuelica* Princis, 1951:45 (9)  
*Anallacta capensis* Princis, 1951:49 (9)  
*Hanitschella nebulosa* Princis, 1951:50 (9)  
*Chorisia fulvotestacea* Princis, 1951:52 (9)  
*Symploce massaica* Princis, 1951:53 (9)  
*Symploce benzoni* Princis, 1951:53 (9)  
*Blattellina indica* Princis, 1951:58 (9)  
*Mopsera andamanica* Princis, 1951:59 (9)  
*Dyakinodes victoriae* Princis, 1951:67 (9)  
*Balta benzoni* Princis, 1951:68 (9)  
1952a *Scalida sordida* Princis, 1952:39 (8)  
1952b *Phidon (?) dubius* Princis, 1952:7 (1)  
*Ischnoptera brattstromi* Princis, 1952:8 (1)  
*Moluchia (?) dahli* Princis, 1952:10 (1)  
1952c *Melestora venezuelana* Princis, 1952:3 (10)  
*Eurycotis nigra* Princis, 1952:5 (10)  
*Antioquita marcuzzii* Princis, 1952:7 (10)  
1953a *Euhebardula* Princis, 1953:56  
*Salganea indica* Princis, 1953:53 (8)  
*Euhebardula fijiana* Princis, 1953:56 (11)  
1953b *Neoloboptera* Princis, 1953:174  
1954a *Ctenoneura hanitschi* Princis, 1954:204 (2)  
*Ctenoneura tuberculata* Princis, 1954:205 (2)  
*Ctenoneura annulicornis* Princis, 1954:206 (2)  
*Ctenoneura mjobergi* Princis, 1954:206 (2)  
*Ctenoneura birmanica* Princis, 1954:206 (2)  
*Diploptera parva* Princis, 1954:208 (2)

- Salganea obtusospinosa* Princis, 1954:210 (2)  
 1954b *Henschoutedenia* Princis, 1954:511  
*Jagrehnia* Princis, 1954:511  
 1954c *Pseudozosteria* Princis, 1954:10  
*Gislenia* Princis, 1954:33  
*Franwalkeria* Princis, 1954:34  
*Carbrunneria* Princis, 1954:36  
*Robshelfordia* Princis, 1954:37  
*Jottepperia* Princis, 1954:40  
*Johnrehnia* Princis, 1954:42  
*Hensaussurea* Princis, 1954:43  
*Richanitschia* Princis, 1954:45  
*Tivia australica* Princis, 1954:3 (12)  
*Pelmatosilpha vagabunda* Princis, 1954:6 (13)  
*Lamproblatta sublobata* Princis, 1954:8 (12)  
*Lamproblatta picea* Princis, 1954:8 (12)  
*Lamproblatta zonata* Princis, 1954:9 (12)  
*Pseudozosteria punctata* Princis, 1954:10 (12)  
*Anamesia douglasi* Princis, 1954:11 (12)  
*Anamesia serrata* Princis, 1954:12 (12)  
*Melanozosteria shelfordi* Princis, 1954:13  
 New name  
*Melanozosteria lobipennis* Princis, 1954:13 (12)  
*Melanozosteria handschini* Princis, 1954:14 (14)  
*Melanozosteria maini* Princis, 1954:15 (1)  
*Platyzosteria denticulata* Princis, 1954:20 (12)  
*Platyzosteria submorosa* Princis, 1954:17 (1)  
*Platyzosteria polita* Princis, 1954:18 (12)  
*Platyzosteria gisleni* Princis, 1954:18 (1)  
*Platyzosteria marginalis* Princis, 1954:20 (12)  
*Platyzosteria similis* Princis, 1954:21 (12)  
*Platyzosteria shelfordi* Princis, 1954:22 (12)  
*Platyzosteria tricaudata* Princis, 1954:23 (12)  
*Platyzosteria tibialis* Princis, 1954:24 (12)  
*Platyzosteria shawi* Princis, 1954:24 (1)  
*Platyzosteria fulva* Princis, 1954:27 (12)  
*Euzosteria callosa* Princis, 1954:29 (12)  
*Calolampra submarginalis* Princis, 1954:32 (12)  
*Franwalkeria glauerti* Princis, 1954:34 (12)  
*Carbrunneria waringi* Princis, 1954:36 (1)  
*Robshelfordia simplex* Princis, 1954:38 (12)  
*Jottepperia bornemisszai* Princis, 1954:41 (1)  
*Johnrehnia hodgkini* Princis, 1954:42 (1)  
*Hensaussurea pedestris* Princis, 1954:43 (12)  
*Hensaussurea sheardi* Princis, 1954:44 (1)  
 1955a *Pelmatosilpha kevani* Princis, 1955:151 (11)  
*Eurycotis kevani* Princis, 1955:153 (11)  
*Rhytidometopum dissimile* Princis, 1955:160 (11)  
*Aglaopteryx ypsilon* Princis, 1955:160 (11)  
*Aglaopteryx furcifera* Princis, 1955:161 (11)  
*Amazonina emarginata* Princis, 1955:163 (11)  
*Chorisonera bilineata* Princis, 1955:165 (11)  
 1955b *Matabelina* Princis, 1955:32  
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*Deropeltis hanitschi* Princis, 1955:21 (15)  
*Deropeltis kivuensis* Princis, 1955:22 (1)  
*Deropeltis basilewskyi* Princis, 1955:24 (15)  
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 1957b *Lobopterella* Princis, 1957:145  
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*Lobopterella pallipes* Princis, 1957:146 (14)  
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- 1965b *Chorisoneura diaphana* Princis, 1965:337  
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- 1965c *Lobodromia* Princis, 1965:138  
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- 1966b *Neostylopyga unicolor* Princis, 1966:540  
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- 1967a *Tivia brevipennis* Princis, 1967:141 (32)  
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- 1973 *Calolampra elegans* Roth & Princis, 1973:103 (2)  
*Calolampra darlingtoni* Roth & Princis, 1973:105 (33)  
*Calolampra ignota* Roth & Princis, 1973:109 (12)  
*Calolampra subgracilis* Roth & Princis, 1973:119 (33)

- Calolampra confusa* Roth & Princis, 1973:121 (33)  
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*Calolampra solida* Roth & Princis, 1973:134 (2)  
*Calolampra mjoebergi* Roth & Princis, 1973:138 (2)  
*Calolampra propinqua* Roth & Princis, 1973:140 (2)  
*Calolampra queenslandica* Roth & Princis, 1973:146 (2)  
*Calolampra insularis* Roth & Princis, 1973:153 (33)  
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*Pseudectoneura* Princis, 1974:517  
*Epibalta novaecaledoniae* Princis, 1974:516 (16)  
*Pseudectoneura kaltenbachi* Princis, 1974:518 (16)
- 1978 *Theganosilpha* Kumar & Princis, 1978:33 (15)  
*Theganopteryx bredoi* Kumar & Princis, 1978:21 (15)  
*Theganopteryx flavescens* Kumar & Princis, 1978:24 (15)  
*Theganopteryx kivuensis* Kumar & Princis, 1978:25 (15)  
*Theganopteryx propinqua* Kumar & Princis, 1978:28 (15)  
*Theganopteryx shabaensis* Kumar & Princis, 1978:30 (11)  
*Theganopteryx shelfordi* Kumar & Princis, 1978:30 (34)  
*Theganopteryx simillima* Kumar & Princis, 1978:31 (15)  
*Theganopteryx villiersi* Kumar & Princis, 1978:31 (3)

*List of collections in which the Princis types are kept*

The list is compiled by Dr Roy Danielsson, Ent. Mus., Lund Univ., Lund. (Numbers corresponding to figures in the species-list):

- (1). Ent. Mus., Zool. Inst., Lund. (2). Swed. natn. Mus. nat. Hist., Stockholm. (3). Mus. natn. d'Hist. nat., Paris. (4). Ent. Mus., Uppsala. (5). Natn. Mus. of S Rhodesia, Bulawayo. (6). Albany Museum, Grahamstown. (7). Zool. Mus., Univ. of Oslo. (8). In coll. C. Willemse, Eyselshoven, Holland. (9). Zool. Mus., Univ. of Copenhagen. (10). In coll. Prof Dr M. La Greca, Neapel. (11). Brit. Mus. (Nat. Hist.). (12). The Western Austr. Mus., Perth. (13). Commonw. Inst. Ent., London. (14). Nat. hist. Mus., Basel. (15). Mus. Roy. de l'Afr. Centr., Tervuren, Belgium. (16). Nat. hist. Mus., Vienna. (17). Zool. Staatssamml., Munich. (18). Inst. Español de Ent., Madrid. (19). Museo Civ. di Storia Nat., Milano. (20). Mus. Zool. de l'Univ. de Strasbourg. (21). Zool. Mus. d. Humboldt-Univ. zu Berlin. (22). Staatl. Mus. für Naturkunde, Stuttgart. (23). Deutscher Ent. Inst., Eberswalde. (24). S. Afr. Mus., Cape Town. (25). Museu Alvaro de Castro, Lourenço Marques. (26). Transvaal Museum, Pretoria. (27). Dept. of Res. and Spec. Service of S Rhodesia, Salisbury. (28). Natal Museum, Pietermaritzburg. (29). Zool. Mus., Hamburg. (30). Mus. Acad. Nat. Sci., Philadelphia. (31). Musée d'Hist. Nat., Geneva. (32). Coryndon Mem. Mus., Nairobi. (33). Mus. Comp. Zool., Harvard Univ., Cambridge, Mass. (34). Zool. Mus. (Hope Dept), The Univ., Oxford. (34). Inst. Roy. Sci. natn., Brussels.