

already established.

This book is without doubt the most useful single volume to carry on a walk in south-western Tasmania. It will be well worth the effort to keep its 368 A5 glossy pages separated from the elements.

*Worms to Wasps: an illustrated guide to
Australia's terrestrial invertebrates*

by Mark S. Harvey & Alan L. Yen

Oxford University Press, 1989, 201pp, RRP \$17.95

Reviewed by P.B. McQuillan

This attractive paperback is an illustrated guide to 68 orders of Australia's terrestrial invertebrates.

A simple to use dichotomous key helps the user determine the appropriate phylum or order. Jargon is kept to a minimum, but a glossary at the back of the book can be consulted as necessary. The bulk of the book then describes each order in some detail, with a brief description and notes on habitat, feeding, life history and further reading. The page opposite this text is occupied by a large scale line-drawing of a representative of the order in question. The illustrations, by Graham Milledge, are of a high standard.

To cover such a vast subject area such a book can only scratch the surface. My main criticism is that, because of the rigid format, some orders with only one species are accorded the same space as, for example, beetles with 20,000 species. Orders, such as true bugs, which have a diversity of body shape, would have been better served by a number of smaller illustrations to give a more complete representation. Also, no larval forms are illustrated, although the reader is referred to an actual size silhouette alongside each diagram.

In summary, this is a useful book which fills the need for much more accessible reference literature to our enormous invertebrate fauna.

