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Unravelling a hotchpotch

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Citation

Reemer, M. (2012, March 13). *Unravelling a hotchpotch*. Retrieved from <https://hdl.handle.net/1887/18582>

Version: Corrected Publisher's Version

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Title: Unravelling a hotchpotch : phylogeny and classification of the Microdontinae (Diptera: Syrphidae)

Issue Date: 2012-03-13

STELLINGEN

behorende bij het proefschrift

“Unravelling a hotchpotch. Phylogeny and classification of the Microdontinae
(Diptera: Syrphidae)”

Menno Reemer (dinsdag 13 maart 2012)

1. The genus *Microdon* in its traditional sense is not monophyletic. *This thesis.*
2. *Spheginobaccha* is the sister group to all other Microdontinae, and *Mixogaster* is the sister group to all other Microdontinae except *Spheginobaccha*. *This thesis.*
3. It is undesirable to change the taxonomic rank of the subfamily Microdontinae to family. *This thesis.*
4. Identifying Microdontinae to genus and species has become much easier with the publication of this thesis. *This thesis.*
5. The lack of records of Microdontinae in nests of poneroid and dorylomorph ants could be explained by aspects of the biology of these ants. *This thesis.*
6. The GC value of Goloboff is a potentially useful measure for determining the k -value most suitable for analysing a dataset using an implied weighting function. *This thesis.*
7. The age of morphology in taxonomy and phylogenetics is not over, nor will it ever be.
8. Implied weighting improves the results of morphology-based parsimony analyses.
9. Using (current versions of) PAUP for heuristic searches under parsimony should be discouraged.
10. Loss of biodiversity causes esthetical, cultural and intellectual impoverishment.
11. Admission of amateur taxonomists to natural history collections should be encouraged.
12. Stellingen zijn vervelende dingen.