Appendix A – Quick Start Instructions

Revised through 18 December 2006

Step 1: With sample in hand, go to the Overview.

Step 2: Starting at the beginning of the Overview, look for a character, or set of characters, in your sample that matches a description leading to a genus or Group at the right margin, i.e., work sequentially as you would do in a traditional dichotomous key.

Step 3: Go to the appropriate Group, and again work sequentially through the character options until a match is found between your sample and a presumptive genus.

Step 4: Note that the two letter abbreviations at the end of a descriptive line leading to a genus are Geographic Distribution Abbreviations (following Concordance).

For perspective on:

- the Overview, and efficiency for those familiar with the system, go to Appendix B, an Abbreviated Overview.

- which genera have taxa exhibiting a given character, go to the relevant Skeleton sub-guide.

- which Groups a given genus is found in, go to the Concordance.

- the strategies behind, and the organization of, the Guide, go to the Introduction. Some users may find it beneficial to read the Introduction first.

End.