



## Caprellidae\*

JOSÉ M. GUERRA-GARCÍA<sup>1</sup> & J.K. LOWRY<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Laboratorio de Biología Marina, Departamento de Fisiología y Zoología, Facultad de Biología, Universidad de Sevilla, Avda Reina Mercedes 6, 41012 Sevilla, Spain.

(jmguerra@us.es)

<sup>2</sup>Crustacea section, Australian Museum, 6 College Street, Sydney, New South Wales, 2010, Australia.

(jim.lowry@austmus.gov.au)

\* In: Lowry, J.K. & Myers, A.A. (Eds) (2009) Benthic Amphipoda (Crustacea: Peracarida) of the Great Barrier Reef, Australia. *Zootaxa*, 2260, 1–930.

### Abstract

Seventeen species of caprellids in 14 genera are reported, mainly from Lizard Island on the Great Barrier Reef, Queensland, Australia. *Metaprotella sandalensis* Mayer, 1898 and *Quadrisegmentum triangulum* Hirayama, 1988, are the most common species in the reef system. Although caprellids were present at most sites, they were abundant only on hydroid and sediment substrates.

**Key words:** Crustacea, Amphipoda, Caprellidae, Great Barrier Reef, Australia, taxonomy, *Aciconula australiensis*, *Caprella penantis*, *Hemiaegina minuta*, *Metaprotella sandalensis*, *Orthoprotella australis*, *Orthoprotella pearce*, *Orthoprotella sp.*, *Paracaprella sp.*, *Protella similis*, *Pseudaeginella cf. biscaynensis*, *Jigurru vailhoggett*, *Metaprotella novaehollandiae*, *Perotripus keablei*, *Pseudoprellicana johnsoni*, *Pseudoprotella fallax*, *Quadrisegmentum lowryi*, *Quadrisegmentum triangulum*

### Introduction

Caprellid amphipods are known worldwide and many species have apparent wide distributions. They are “ambush predators” living on many substrates, micro-herbivores on seagrasses and algae or detritivores. The first taxonomic study which included caprellids from the Great Barrier Reef was Guerra-García (2006). In this paper 17 species in 14 genera are reported from the Reef, 10 species in the Caprellinae and seven species in the Phtisicinae. The most common caprellid species known from the Reef are *Metaprotella sandalensis* Mayer, 1898 and *Quadrisegmentum triangulum* Hirayama, 1988. The majority of the species reported here are from the northern part of the Reef at Lizard Island. It is expected that future surveys from other parts will turn up more species.

### Material and Methods

The descriptions were generated from a DELTA database (Dallwitz 2005) to caprellid genera and Australian species. All material is lodged in the Australian Museum, Sydney (AM). A set of colour plates, a list of standard abbreviations and detailed station data is available in Lowry & Myers (2009). A CD (*Benthic Amphipoda (Crustacea: Peracarida) of the Great Barrier Reef: Interactive Keys*) is available with the book or the keys can be accessed at the crustacea.net website.