



Cyproideidae*

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Abstract

Two new species of cyproideid amphipods, *Cyproidea cobia*, **sp. nov.** and *Narapheonoides lowryi*, **sp. nov.**, are described from the Great Barrier Reef. *Cyproidea cobia*, **sp. nov.**, is characterized by gnathopod 1 having a rectilinear basis and gnathopod 2 ischium posterior process not developed. *Narapheonoides lowryi*, **sp. nov.**, differs from its congeners in that the basis in both pereopods 6 and 7 has a posterodistal flange and the pereopod 6 basis is broader. With the recently described *Gbroidea dingaalana* Lowry & Azman, 2008, collected from Lizard Island, this study brings the number of known cyproideid amphipods from the Great Barrier Reef to three species.

Key words: Crustacea, Amphipoda, Cyproideidae, Great Barrier Reef, Australia, taxonomy, new species, *Cyproidea cobia*, *Gbroidea dingaalana*, *Narapheonoides lowryi*

Introduction

Amphipods of the family Cyproideidae J.L. Barnard, 1969 are known to occur mostly in the Southern Hemisphere (Lowry & Stoddart 2003; Lowry & Azman 2008) and are naturally found in association with marine algae, intertidal rocks, or coral debris (Lowry & Stoddart 2003; Moore 1981; J.L. Barnard 1972). Cyproideids are also known to have associations with live corals (Myers 1985; Thomas 1999), sponges (Ortiz & Sanchez-Diaz 2000), crinoids (Potts 1915; Lowry & Azman 2008) and hydroids (Griffiths 1975). Members of the cyproideids are characterised by: coxae 1 and 2 being very small, with immensely enlarged and broadened coxae 3 and 4, uropod 3 biramous with elongated peduncle and often with dorsal keel. Up to now, 18 genera have been described worldwide, of which 3 genera i.e., *Austropheonoides* J.L. Barnard, 1972, *Gbroidea* Lowry & Azman, 2008, and *Narapheonoides* J.L. Barnard, 1972 are known to be endemic to Australia.

On examining the amphipod collections from the Great Barrier Reef deposited in the Australian Museum, Sydney (AM), two new species in the genera *Cyproidea* and *Narapheonoides* were discovered. In the present paper, these species, *Cyproidea cobia* **sp. nov.** and *Narapheonoides lowryi* **sp. nov.**, are described and their differences to other related species are discussed.

Materials and Methods

Material was hand-collected on scuba and 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