



Stenothoidae*

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Abstract

Two genera and two species of Stenothoidae are reported from the Great Barrier Reef.

Key words: Crustacea, Amphipoda, Stenothoidae, Great Barrier Reef, Australia, taxonomy, *Stenothoe miersii*, *Wallametopa cabon*

Introduction

Only two stenothoid genera, each with one species, have been recorded from the Great Barrier Reef. One belongs to the widely distributed genus *Stenothoe* Dana, 1852, the other, *Wallametopa* J.L. Barnard, 1974, is reported only from Victoria (Australia) and Madagascar. This latter genus combines a 1-articulate palp on maxilla 1 with a simple gnathopod 1. This combination of characters is otherwise seen only in the Arctic-boreal cold-water genera (*Metopa* Boeck, 1871, *Hardametopa* Barnard & Karaman, 1991, *Mesometopa* Gurjanova, 1938, *Mesostenothoides* Gurjanova, 1938, *Metopella* Sars, 1895, *Parametopa* Chevreux, 1901, *Prometopa* Schellenberg, 1926, *Pycnopyge* Krapp-Schickel, 2000, *Vonimetopa* Barnard & Karaman, 1987 and *Zaikometopa* Barnard & Karaman, 1987) and with the warm-temperate genus *Parametopella* Gurjanova, 1938, from North America. There is no other stenothoid with this character combination in Australia.

Materials and methods

The descriptions were generated from a DELTA database (Dallwitz 2005) of the stenothoid genera and species of the world. 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 are 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.