

## Description of *Durckheimia lochi* n. sp., with an annotated checklist of Australian Pinnotheridae (Crustacea: Decapoda: Brachyura)

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### Abstract

A new species of pinnotherid crab, *Durckheimia lochi*, is described from the Great Barrier Reef, representing the first Australian record of the genus. The new species differs from its congeners chiefly by the combination of a transverse anterior carapace margin, a deep, slit-like, median frontal carapace notch, a cristate, but interrupted longitudinal median carina on the carapace, and in features of the third maxilliped. *Pinnotheropsis yokotai* Kubo, 1939, is removed from the synonymy of *D. caeca* Bürger, 1895, and the generic position of *D. besutensis* Serène, 1967, is discussed. A key to the species of *Durckheimia* and an annotated checklist of the known Australian Pinnotheridae are provided. Previous records of *Pinnotheres novaezelandiae* Filhol, 1885, *P. obesus* Dana, 1852, and *Pinnixia faba* (Dana, 1851) from Australia are corrected.

**Key words:** Crustacea, Decapoda, Brachyura, Pinnotheridae, *Durckheimia lochi*, taxonomy, Indo-West Pacific

### Introduction

The genus *Durckheimia* de Man, 1889, was erected for a new species, *D. carinipes* from the Red Sea, and was characterised chiefly by the presence of a longitudinal median carina on the carapace and strongly produced, upturned frontal, lateral and posterior margins that obscure the eyes in dorsal view. The most recent summary of the Pinnotheridae (Schmitt et al. 1973) recognised three species of *Durckheimia*, all from the Indo-West Pacific: *D. carinipes* de Man, 1889, *D. caeca* Bürger, 1895, and *D. besutensis* Serène, 1967. In the present study, we describe a new species of *Durckheimia* from Australia, and evaluate the status of *Pinnotheropsis yokotai* Kubo, 1939, regarded as a synonym of *D. caeca* by Sakai (1955, 1976). We also evaluate the generic position of *D. besutensis* Serène, 1967, whose