

New species of *Loandalia* (Polychaeta: Pilargidae) from Queensland, Australia

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Abstract

Two new species of *Loandalia* are described from Queensland, Australia. *Loandalia fredrayorum* sp. nov. is described from Moreton Bay, south eastern Queensland and is distinguished from all other species of *Loandalia* by the presence of singular palpostyles; uniramous parapodia at chaetiger 1; an emergent notopodial spine at chaetiger 9; neurochaetae numbering 20–24; ventral cirri begin on chaetiger 7 and the pygidium with two lateral papillae-like anal cirri. *Loandalia gladstonensis* sp. nov. is described from Gladstone Harbour, central eastern Queensland and is distinguished from all other species of *Loandalia* by the presence of bifid palpostyles; chaetiger 1 uniramous with remaining chaetigers biramous; an emergent notopodial spine from chaetiger 7–8; ventral cirri present from chaetiger 5 and neurochaetae numbering 5–6.

Key words: *Loandalia fredrayorum* sp. nov., *Loandalia gladstonensis* sp. nov., Pilargidae, Queensland, Australia, new species, systematics.

Introduction

Saint-Joseph (1899) established the Pilargidae for the new species *Pilargis verrucosa* Saint-Joseph. Prior to this, pilargids had been placed in several different families including the Syllidae, Hesionidae and Polynoidae (Licher & Westheide 1994). Recent cladistic analyses of the Phyllodocida firmly recognise Pilargidae as a distinct clade (Glasby 1993; Pleijel & Dahlgren 1998).

Hutchings and Johnson (2003) and Licher and Westheide (1994) recognise twelve pilargid genera including *Loandalia* Monroe, 1936 and *Parandalia* Emerson & Fauchald, 1971, however, Salazar-Vallejo (1998) considers *Parandalia* to be a junior synonym of *Loandalia* due to an absence of autapomorphic characteristics. *Talehsapia* Fauvel, 1932 and *Loandalia* share the closest morphological features, including a nearly complete