

Referral of the Halocypridina *Thaumatocypris* (Miocene, Australia) to the Cladocopina (Ostracoda, Halocyprida)

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Abstract

B. K. Nadeau in 1955 identified as *Thaumatocypris* ostracodes from the middle Miocene Glenample Clay of Victoria, southeastern Australia. Nadeau's collection of Ostracoda from the Glenample Clay was located in the collections of the Museum of Victoria, Melbourne. Examination of that material indicates that the Glenample Clay specimens attributed by Nadeau to *Thaumatocypris* belong to *Polycope sanctacatherinae* Whatley & Downing 1983. As a result, it is concluded that *Thaumatocypris* has not been collected in the Miocene of Australia. Furthermore, in a broader biostratigraphic/palaeobiogeographic context, the result confirms that no member of the Suborder Halocypridina has been reported so far from the Tertiary Period.

Key words: *Thaumatocypris*, *Polycope sanctacatherinae*, Ostracoda, Miocene, southeastern Australia

Introduction

Thaumatocypris Müller 1906, the type genus of Family Thaumatocyprididae Müller 1906, is based on a pelagic species described from Indonesian waters of the Indian Ocean. The type-species (*T. echinata* Müller 1906) was collected in a plankton net at a depth of 1100 m southwest of Sumatra, and a single specimen was later reported from about 2000 m in the Seram Sea between Sulawesi and West Papua (Poulsen 1969). The only other known species of *Thaumatocypris* (*T. rudjakovi* Kornicker 2004), initially described by Rudjakov (1993) as *T. echinata*, was reported from near Madagascar. At present, the Thaumatocyprididae are known to include three living genera: *Thaumatocypris* Müller