



***Triaina*, a new genus in the Janirellidae Menzies, 1956 (Crustacea: Isopoda: Asellota), with two new species from south-eastern Australia, and a new diagnosis for the family**

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Abstract

The varying concepts of Janirellidae Menzies, 1956 are outlined, including its rejection by several authors. The view of Wilson and Wägele of Janirellidae being a valid family comprising *Janirella* Bonnier, 1896 and presumably *Dactylostylis* Richardson, 1911 (= *Spinianirella* Menzies, 1962) is accepted. Diagnoses of the Janirellidae subsequent to Menzies' original one were based on the inclusion of a diverse range of genera now recognised as not belonging in that family. A new diagnosis of Janirellidae is presented based on the inclusion of *Janirella*, *Dactylostylis*, and a new genus *Triaina* with two new species, *T. isodonte* and *T. makridonte*, from south-eastern Australia. The latter species represents the shallowest record (80 m) of the otherwise predominantly deep-water family. All species in the family are listed in an appendix, with area of type locality and depth range.

Key words: Isopoda, Asellota, Janirellidae, new diagnosis, *Triaina* **gen. nov.**, *T. isodonte* **sp. nov.**, *T. makridonte* **sp. nov.**, Australia

Introduction

Members of the janiroidean asellote family Janirellidae Menzies, 1956a (as Ianirellidae) are found primarily in the deep sea, with 40 of the 42 known species (including one of the two new species described here) occurring at depth greater than 500 meters, and 19 of these found only at abyssal and hadal depths between 3000 and 9000 meters (see Appendix). Janirellidae have been reported in the Atlantic from south of Iceland through the Caribbean to off South Africa, as well as from the north-western and south-eastern Pacific and the Bougainville Trench in the Solomon Sea.

As originally conceived by Menzies (1956a) the family included only *Janirella* Bonnier, 1896. Subsequently Menzies (1962a) included *Spinianirella* Menzies, 1962a (= *Dactylostylis* Richardson, 1911, see Hessler 1968) and “possibly *Rachura* Richardson, 1911” in the family. Menzies (1962b: 83) re-diagnosed the family to include several genera that are now placed in other families or as Janiroidea *incertae sedis*: *Ianthopsis* Beddard and *Acanthaspidia* Stebbing (Acanthaspidiidae), and *Iolanthe* Beddard (= *Acanthaspidia*), see Brandt (2001); *Microprotus* Richardson (Munnopsidae), see Wilson *et al.* (1989); *Iolella* Richardson (= *Tole* Ortmann) and *Rachura* Richardson, both Janiroidea *insertae sedis*, see Wilson and Wägele (1994). Menzies (1962b) did not mention *Spinianirella* as part of the Janirellidae, and this genus has no cross reference in either of his two 1962 papers. The family diagnosis, with included genera, in Menzies and George (1972) is a repeat of Menzies 1962a.