Ischyroceridae*

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Abstract

Eight species in the Ischyroceridae are reported from Lizard Island, northern Great Barrier Reef, Australia. Five species are new to science: Coxischyrocerus rhombocoxus gen. et sp. nov., Tropischyrocerus pugilus gen. et sp. nov., Cerapus nudus sp. nov., Erinthonius parabrasiensis sp. nov., and Erinthonius tropicalis sp. nov. Erinthonius pugnax Dana is new to the Great Barrier Reef. Ambicholestes magellani (Just) and Cerapus volucola Lowry & Berents have been recorded previously from the area. A single specimen, possibly a new species, is reported as Erinthonius sp. Ischyrocerus inexpectatus Ruffo (Mediterranean Sea) is transferred to Coxischyrocerus. Ischyrocerus socia (Myers) from Bora Bora is transferred to Tropischyrocerus.

Key words: Crustacea, Amphipoda, Ischyroceridae, Great Barrier Reef, Australia, taxonomy, new genera, new species, Coxischyrocerus rhombocoxus, Tropischyrocerus pugilus, Ambicholestes (Ambicholestes) magellani, Cerapus nudus, Cerapus volucola, Erinthonius parabrasiensis, Erinthonius pugnax, Erinthonius tropicalis

Introduction

This paper deals with eight species of ischyrocerid Amphipoda from Lizard Island and adjacent parts of the Great Barrier Reef. Six species are new to the Great Barrier Reef, five of them new to science. Two of the new species are placed in new genera. The only two ischyrocerids previously reported from the area, Ambicholestes magellani Just (1984) and Cerapus volucola Lowry & Berents (2005) were not found during the 2005 workshop.

Materials and methods

The higher classification of the Ischyroceridae follows Myers & Lowry (2003). The descriptions were generated from a DELTA database (Dallwitz 2005) and subsequently edited for clarity of language. 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 is 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.