Sebidae*

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Abstract

Three new species of sebid amphipods are reported from the Great Barrier Reef.

Key words: Crustacea, Amphipoda, Sebidae, Great Barrier Reef, Australia, taxonomy, new species, Seba gruneri, Seba mariolgae, Seba zeumindi

Introduction

The global distribution of the Sebidae is disjointed. Currently it occurs in the Mediterranean Sea, Eastern and Southern Atlantic Ocean, southern United States, Hawaiian Islands, Indian Ocean, Antarctica and Australia, however, it may have a much wider distribution. Here, three new species belonging to the genus Seba Bate, 1862 are recorded and described from the Great Barrier Reef. All three are new to Science.

Materials and methods

The descriptions were generated from a DELTA database (Dallwitz 2005) to the sebid genera and species of the world. 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.

Seba Bate, 1862

Seba gruneri sp. nov.
(Figs 1–3)

Type material. Holotype, male, 3.9 mm, AM P71239, Horseshoe Reef, Lizard Island (14°41.21’S 145°26.49’E), sponge, large coral bommies surrounded by sand and rubble, by hand on scuba, 9 m, C. Serejo.