



Urohaustoriidae*

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Abstract

The family Urohaustoriidae Barnard & Drummond, from the Great Barrier Reef was examined. Two species in separate genera were recorded. Both species, *Tottungus solivagus* and *Urohaustorius drummondiae* are new to science.

Key words: Amphipoda, Urohaustoriidae, Great Barrier Reef, Australia, taxonomy, new species, *Tottungus solivagus*, *Urohaustorius drummondiae*.

Introduction

The Urohaustoriidae Barnard & Drummond, 1982, are fossorial amphipods, which, although they live in shallow water, are generally blind, or nearly so (Barnard & Clark 1982). They are an important group because of their abundance and obscure taxonomy (Barnard & Drummond 1982), and are often sampled during ecological impact surveys and population ecology studies. They are confined to Australian waters, except for one, *Huarpe escofeti* Barnard & Clark, 1982, found in Argentina and Chile.

The Urohaustoriidae of Australia were reviewed by Barnard & Drummond (1982), with subsequent additions to the family made by Barnard & Clark (1982), Berents (1985), and Barnard & Drummond (1991). Currently, the family contains 21 described species, divided between 8 genera, the vast majority of which belong to the genus *Urohaustorius* Sheard, 1936. The present study recorded just two species, both of which are new to science.

Material and methods

The descriptions were generated from a DELTA database (Dallwitz 2005) to the urohaustoriid world genera and species. All material is lodged in the Australian Museum, Sydney (AM). A set of colour plates, 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.