



Remarkable Australasian marine diversity: 18 new species in *Pentaceration* Just, 2009 (Crustacea, Isopoda, Paramunnidae)

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Abstract

Eighteen new species in *Pentaceration* Just, 2009 (Isopoda, Paramunnidae) are described. From the Arafura Sea: *Pentaceration bifida*; from south eastern Australia: *P. bovicornis*, *P. denticornis*, *P. globopleonis*, *P. lancifera*, *P. magna*, *P. megalomos*, *P. omalos*, *P. rihothalassa*, *P. serrata*, *P. simplex*, *P. tasmaniensis*; from New Zealand: *P. curvicornis*, *P. dentifera*, *P. novaezealandia*, *P. epipedos*, *P. setosa*; from the Kermadec Trench: *P. kermadecia*. A key to the 20 known species of *Pentaceration* is given. *Pentaceration* is the most diverse genus in the Paramunnidae and has the greatest depth range (7 to 5340 meters). The general distribution of the genus and the presence of species with functional eyes at shelf depth (all other species blind) suggest a shallow water Gondwana origin.

Key words: Isopoda, Asellota, Paramunnidae, Australasia, *Pentaceration*