



Siphonoecetini Just, 1983 (Crustacea, Amphipoda, Ischyroceridae) 9: New species in *Rhinoecetes* Just, 1983, *Cephaloecetes* gen. nov. and *Neoecetes* gen. nov. from the south-eastern Australian shelf

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Abstract

Six new species of *Rhinoecetes* Just, 1983, *R. rhinoceros*, *R. dinoceros*, *R. brevirostris*, *R. coclearis*, *R. albomaculosus* and *R. meridianus*, are described together with *Cephaloecetes enigmaticus* gen. nov., sp. nov. and *Neoecetes conipes* gen. nov., sp. nov. from eastern Australia from Moreton Bay in Queensland to Bass Strait and Tasmania. *Cephaloecetes* gen. nov. differs from *Rhinoecetes* by having the head front margin entire and a pseudorostrum arising underneath from the frons. *Neoecetes* gen. nov. differs from *Rhinoecetes* in having two robust setae instead of one on the posterior projection of gnathopod 2 carpus, a row of small accessory robust setae on pereopods 5 and 6 carpus instead of a single one, and uropod 3 ramus being conical instead of round. Keys to genera and species are given. A novel character, a pair of sternal papillae, is documented in *Rhinoecetes* and *Cephaloecetes* on the ventral surface of pereonite 7 in adult females. The distribution of the species is commented upon. The most diverse fauna of Siphonoecetini was found in Jervis Bay, New South Wales.

Key words: Amphipoda, Ischyroceridae, Siphonoecetini, Australia, *Rhinoecetes*, *Cephaloecetes* gen. nov., *Neoecetes* gen. nov.

Introduction

Siphonoecetini Just, 1983 (type species *Siphonoecetes typicus* Kroyer, 1845) have been reported from the Atlantic low Arctic from Norway to West Greenland; along both sides of the Atlantic Ocean from the Caribbean in the west to South Africa; the Mediterranean; along the northern rim of the Indian Ocean from Madagascar to Thailand, Borneo and Papua New Guinea; and, in the Pacific area, from Japan and the Society Islands, and around the Australian continent; (Just 1988, fig. 5, Myers 1995). With the new species described herein there are 51 named species of Siphonoecetini world wide.

The first siphonoecetines reported from Australia were *Siphonoecetes australis* Stebbing, 1910 and *Siphonoecetes sellicki* Sheard, 1936, both transferred to the new genus *Australoecetes* by Just, 1983 and subsequently fully redescribed (Just 1985) together with the new species *A. jervisi* Just, 1985. Just (1983) described the new genus and species *Rhinoecetes robustus*. *Rhinoecetes* belongs in the informal bubocorophid clade of the siphonoecetids (Just 1988). The Australian fauna of concholeptids, another informal clade of the Siphonoecetini (Just 1988), was treated by Just (1998, 2009) describing six new species.

This study deals with the fauna of bubocorophids of eastern Australia from Moreton Bay, Queensland, in the north to the Bass Strait including Port Philip Bay, Victoria, in the south-east, and Tasmania (Fig. 1). Six new species are described in the genus *Rhinoecetes* Just, 1983, one new species in the new genus *Cephaloecetes*, and one new species in the new genus *Neoecetes*.