

# TYPTON AUSTRALIS SP. NOV., A NEW PONTONIINID SHRIMP FROM THE GREAT BARRIER REEF, AUSTRALIA

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Figures 1-4

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## SUMMARY

A new species of pontoniinid shrimp from the Great Barrier Reef, Australia, is described and illustrated. The new species shows several morphological features intermediate between species of *Typton* and another spongicolous genus *Onycocaris* Nobili. The systematic affinities of the new species are discussed and the features which distinguish it from other species from the Pacific and western Indian Oceans and from the single American species, to which it is most closely similar, are noted.

## INTRODUCTION

Until recently the genus *Typton* Costa, 1844, appeared not to be represented in the Indo-West-Pacific fauna. One species was known from the Mediterranean and eastern Atlantic coasts of Europe and Africa and several species were reported from tropical American waters. Several species are now known to live in association with sponges. The presence of *Typton* species in the Indo-West Pacific region was first recorded by Fujino and Miyake (1969) who reported *T. dentatus* from the Ryukyu Islands. A second species, *T. bawii*, from Zanzibar in the western Indian Ocean was later reported by Bruce (in press, b). The present report records the presence of a third species of *Typton* in the southern region of the area, on the Great Barrier reef. The genus *Typton* is therefore widely distributed in the Indo-West Pacific region, although apparently the species are naturally rare or difficult to collect.

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