

***Perinereis* (Polychaeta, Nereididae) from Australia, with Redescriptions of Six Additional Species**

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ABSTRACT. The genus *Perinereis*, with 56 species worldwide, is represented in Australian waters by 15 species. Eleven Australian species with one or two bars on Area VI are described, and six species not recorded from Australia are redescribed from type material. No new species are described. A key is provided to all 15 Australian species of *Perinereis*. A list of all species of *Perinereis* is provided in an appendix.

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The genus *Perinereis*, comprising 56 species and nominal subspecific forms, is usually informally subdivided on the basis of the number of smooth bar-shaped paragnaths on Area VI of the pharynx. Appendix 1 lists all known species of *Perinereis*, arranged in an informal grouping of similar species. This paper treats 11 Australian species which possess either one or two bars on each side of Area VI (Groups 1 and 2). Six additional species of *Perinereis* with this arrangement of bar-shaped paragnaths on Area VI, but not recorded from Australia are redescribed from type material. Species of *Perinereis* characterised by a distinctive

arc of short bars on Area VI (usually numbering 6-14 on each side) (Group 3), and comprising 20 nominal forms worldwide, are revised by Wilson & Glasby (in preparation). A key is provided to all 15 Australian species of *Perinereis*, including those described elsewhere by Wilson & Glasby (in preparation).

This paper is the third in a series describing Australian Nereididae; earlier papers treat the subfamily Gymnonereidinae (Hutchings & Reid, 1990), and the genera *Leonnates*, *Platynereis* and *Solomonereis* (Hutchings & Reid, 1991).