

The Taxonomy of Amphipoda (Crustacea) from Australian Fresh Waters: Part 2

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ABSTRACT. Taxonomic information on freshwater species from Western Australia, Queensland and South Australia is presented. The following new crangonyctoid taxa are established: *Austrogammarus telsosetosus*, *Toulrabia*, new genus, with *T. willsi*, *Uroctena whadjukia*, and *Chillagoe*, new genus, with *C. thea*; the following species is reviewed: *U. setosa*; the following new genera, apparently melitoid, are established: *Brachina*, new genus, with *B. invasa*, and *Nedsia*, new genus, with *N. douglasi*.

BARNARD, J.L. & W.D. WILLIAMS, 1995. The taxonomy of Amphipoda (Crustacea) from Australian fresh waters: part 2. Records of the Australian Museum 47(2): 161–201.

This report is the second of a planned series documenting our investigations of the taxonomy of Australian freshwater Amphipoda. Our first report laid the foundation for our studies in that, for the most part, it redescribed all known Australian crangonyctoid taxa and discussed the higher taxonomic category into which we placed them. The present report is mostly concerned with the description of new crangonyctoid taxa (but also adds to our knowledge of one known crangonyctoid, *Uroctena setosa* Nicholls, and describes two new non-crangonyctoid taxa).

For the present, we regard the non-crangonyctoid taxa we describe as part of the melitoid (hadzioid) complex, that is, as taxa of essentially marine derivation. Whatever their derivation, their description clearly emphasises the points made in our first report concerning the rich diversity of Australian freshwater

amphipods. It also indicates the range of sources from which this diversity derives. Given the relative dearth of taxonomic studies on Australian freshwater amphipods to date, particularly with regard to subterranean taxa, the discovery of further non-crangonyctoid taxa would not be surprising. Even so, crangonyctoids remain the dominant type in Australian fresh waters, outside those found in lowlands where ceinids (*Austrochiltonia*) dominate.

A comprehensive discussion of the crangonyctoid concept was given in our first report. In that discussion, we were generally critical of the concept as a whole but chose to support it as a useful working hypothesis or “enabling mechanism” promoting our studies until the time when knowledge of Australian freshwater amphipods was further advanced. The present paper follows the same principles. Thus, for present purposes, crangonyctoid amphipods are considered to possess a