Cainozoic and Recent Deep Sea Cytherurid Ostracoda from the South Western Pacific and Eastern Indian Oceans, Part I: Cytherurinae

MICHAEL A. AYRESS¹, ROBIN WHATLEY², SIAN E. DOWNING² & KARIN J. MILLSON²

¹ Department of Geology, Australian National University, ACT 0200, Australia. mayress@garnet.bmr.gov.au

ABSTRACT. From a largely unpublished database the systematics, geographical and stratigraphical distribution of Cainozoic cytherurine Ostracoda found in the deep sea environment of the eastern Indian and south-western Pacific regions is presented. Eleven new species: ?Eucytherura anoda, Eucytherura batalaria, ?Eucytherura boomeri, Eucytherura elegantula, Eucytherura indianensis, Eucytherura multituberculata, Eucytherura pacifica, Eucytherura parabatalaria, ?Eucytherura polydictyota, Eucytherura tumida and Hemiparacytheridea vanharteni are described. Five species are assigned to previously established taxa and four species are lest in open nomenclature due to paucity of material.

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Deep sea ostracod studies which have examined the fine fraction (less than 250 micron aperture seive) of samples frequently report species of the Cytheruridae. That this family comprises very small species (less than 0.40 mm in length) explains why they are poorly represented in most published faunal lists of deep sea ostracods. This study indicates that the group is well represented in the deep-sea at least in the Indo-Pacific region and that this has been so throughout the Cainozoic. The present study is concerned with the Cytherurinae. A subsequent paper will describe the Cytheropterinae.

Taxonomic knowledge of deep sea forms of the genera considered in this report, is based on material collected mainly from the Atlantic region (Maddocks &

Steineck, 1987; Whatley & Coles, 1987; Coles & Whatley, 1989). Material collected from the deep Indo-Pacific and compiled through comprehensive studies undertaken in the Micropalaeontological Research Unit, Aberystwyth, Wales, is still incorporated in largely unpublished theses. To assimilate the nomenclature contained therein with the present taxonomic study it is considered useful to list all names—unpublished as well as published—that have been applied to these taxa during the course of our work. (Unpublished references are indicated by asterisk *). This valuable source of information, useful for improving our understanding of the systematics and zoogeography of the taxa, is the focus of this report.

² Institute of Earth Studies, University of Aberystwyth, Dyfed, SY23 3DB, United Kingdom.