

The Genus *Platypilumnus* Alcock and Description of *P. jamiesoni* n.sp. from New Caledonia (Crustacea, Decapoda, Brachyura)

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ABSTRACT. A new species of the genus *Platypilumnus*, *P. jamiesoni* n.sp., is described and illustrated from the upper bathyal zone of New Caledonia. A key to the four species in the genus is given along with new illustrations for *P. inermis*, *P. gracilipes* and *P. soelae*. The placement of this genus in Goneplacidae and its affinities with *Neopilumnoplax* Serène, 1969 are discussed.

RÉSUMÉ. Une nouvelle espèce du genre *Platypilumnus*, *P. jamiesoni* n.sp., est décrite et illustré de la zone bathyale supérieure de Nouvelle-Calédonie. Une clef des quatre espèces du genre est donnée ainsi que de nouvelles illustrations pour *P. inermis*, *P. gracilipes* et *P. soelae*. La position de ce genre dans les Goneplacidae et ses affinités avec *Neopilumnoplax* Serène, 1969 sont discutées.

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In the course of the BATHUS 2 expedition, on board R.V. *Alis*, we collected four specimens of the genus *Platypilumnus* Alcock, from the outer reef slope off New Caledonia. This resulted in an investigation of the three described species of the genus, known from a very small number of specimens, and led to the following description of a new species from New Caledonia, *Platypilumnus jamiesoni* n.sp.

The genus *Platypilumnus* has until now included the following species: *Platypilumnus gracilipes* Alcock, 1894, from the Andaman Sea and Vietnam; *P. inermis* Guinot, 1985, from La Réunion Island; and *P. soelae* Garth, 1987, from northwestern Australia.

Different authors have hesitated about the systematic position of this genus; it has been placed in both the Goneplacidae and the Geryonidae. According to Guinot (1969a), the genus *Platypilumnus* could be "étroitement apparenté à *Geryon*". Manning & Holthuis (1989) proposed that the Geryonidae should be limited to only the genera *Geryon*, *Chaceon* and *Zariquieyon* and that *Platypilumnus* be excluded. I consider *Platypilumnus* is closest to *Neopilumnoplax* and in consequence, I place *Platypilumnus* in Goneplacidae.

Abbreviations: CSIRO, Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation; MNHN, Muséum national d'Histoire naturelle; NTM: Northern Territory