AN ANNOTATED CHECK-LIST OF AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND POLYCHAETA, ARCHIANNELIDA AND MYZOSTOMIDA

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ABSTRACT

All the published records of Polychaeta, Archiannelia and Myzostomida from the seas around Australia and New Zealand have been extracted from over 200 publications. The currently accepted specific names are listed alphabetically family by family and each is followed by the synonyms that have been used in the publications dealing with the region. All locality records are given as degress of latitude and longitude with a symbol to indicate the depth range. A map marked with two degree latitude/longitude squares is given for ease of reference. The repositories of the collections and of the types of species first described from Australia and New Zealand are shown.

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INTRODUCTION

The records of Australian and New Zealand Polychaeta are spread through 184 publications many of which are in old or obscure journals. Moreover more than half the specific names are obsolete, others are misidentifications and some of the "new" species should obviously be sunk in the synonymy. Further the locality records are so numerous and scattered that it takes days to determine the geographic distribution of any species. For all these reasons it is hoped that this check list which includes all the published records of the Archiannelida, Myzostomida and Polychaeta will be useful to later workers.

The list has several limitations. While it includes records from the Australian-New Zealand region from the Torres Straits in 10° south to Campbell Island in 52° south and outlying islands such as Lord Howe, Kermadec, Chatham, Snares and Auckland, it excludes records from Cocos and the Indonesia-New Guinea area in the north, the South Pacific islands to the east and many subantarctic islands south of New Zealand. We have also excluded our own unpublished records and those of common species in ecological papers which merely confirm the known geographic range. Similarly we have excluded repetitions of earlier records such as those given by Baird (1865), Quatrefages (1865), Hutton (1879), Haswell (1883), Whitelegge (1889) and Fyfe (1952) unless they show changes in nomenclature or include useful notes.

THE FORMAT OF THE CHECK-LIST

Within each family what we regard as the valid specific names are listed in alphabetical order with the synonyms inset below each. Each specific name is followed by the author's name and date and then the locality records. In order to distinguish the type locality from others this is shown separately and later records are shown below. No locality record is given for types first described from any area outside the Australian-New Zealand region so that it is possible to distinguish these "foreign" species.

Since many of the place names that have been used in the references are difficult to locate even with a good gazeteer, all locality records are given in degrees of latitude and longitude. With the exception of Kermadec Island and some islands of the Chatham group which are in west longitude, the whole Australian-New Zealand region is in south latitude and east longitude. It is thus possible to save space by omitting the letters S (south) and E (east) after the degrees of latitude and longitude except for Kermadec and some of the Chatham Island records which are marked W (west). For the sake of brevity only degrees are given and minutes of latitude and longitude are omitted. Thus Port Jackson (Sydney Harbour) in 33°58′S, 151°00′E is reduced to 33/151. The numerous records from in and around Port Jackson including those from the famous collecting site at Long Reef, Collaroy all fall within this latitude/longitude square of 60 x 60 nautical miles and all are shown by the one record. It is appreciated that this method of presentation does not