

The Nereididae (Polychaeta) from Australia – *Leonnates*, *Platynereis* and *Solomononereis*

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ABSTRACT. *Leonnates crinitus* n.sp., *L. bolus* n.sp. and *Platynereis uniseris* n.sp. are described from Northern Australia. A systematic account of *Leonnates*, *Platynereis* and *Solomononereis* known from Australia and a key to species recorded from Australia is provided.

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In this paper, the second in a series to describe the nereidid fauna of Australia, *Leonnates*, *Platynereis* and *Solomononereis* are discussed. We describe 11 species, three of which are new: *Leonnates crinitus* n.sp., *L. bolus* n.sp. and *Platynereis uniseris* n.sp. *Leonnates jousseaumei* Gravier and *Solomononereis marauensis* Gibbs are new records for Australian waters.

A key to the genera of nereidids occurring worldwide is given by Fauchald (1977). In the final paper of this series on Australian nereidids, a key to the genera and species occurring in Australia will be given.

The three genera discussed in this paper, belong to two groups identified by Fitzhugh (1987) as being closely related to one another. The two other genera in these groups *Perinereis* and *Ceratonereis* which are both extremely well represented in Australian waters, form the basis of other papers (Hutchings *et al.*, in press; Hutchings & Reid, in preparation).

We have used the terminology described in the first

paper on the Gymnonereidinae (Hutchings & Reid, 1990). The following abbreviations have been used in the text: AHF - Allan Hancock Foundation, Los Angeles, California (Polychaete collections now located at the Los Angeles County Museum); AM - Australian Museum, Sydney; BMNH - British Museum (Natural History), London; NMV - National Museum of Victoria, now Museum of Victoria, Melbourne; NTM - Northern Territory Museum, Darwin; QM - Queensland Museum, Brisbane; SAM - South Australian Museum, Adelaide; SSM - Naturhistoriska Riksmuseet, Stockholm; TASM - Tasmanian Museum, Hobart; USNM - National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution, Washington D.C.; WAM - Western Australian Museum, Perth. Non-Australian distributions are in most cases based on the literature, whereas Australian distributions are based upon material examined. Where information was available, depths and dates of collection are given with each specimen examined.