

Aoridae (Amphipoda: Corophioidea) from the Austral Isles

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ABSTRACT. Six species of aorid amphipod are recorded from the Austral Isles. Two new species are described and figured.

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Six species of aorid amphipod were collected in 0–3 m depth in the Austral Isles by J.K. Lowry and J.M. Poupin during August, 1991. Two species, *Bemlos callistemon* n.sp. and *Globosolembos rimatara* n.sp. are new to science and one species *Aoroides vitiosus* Myers was previously known only from Papua New Guinea. The remaining three species are known to be widespread in the western Pacific. The new species are described and figured.

Abbreviations used in figures. *G*, gnathopod; *L*, labium; *Md*, mandible; *Mx*, maxilla; *P*, pereon (sternal spines); *U*, uropod; *x*, palm.

Aoroides Walker

Aoroides vitiosus Myers, 1995

Aoroides vitiosus Myers, 1995: 27–30, figs. 1–2.

Material examined. AM P54524 (1 ♂, 11 ♀ ♀) lagoon in front of Puatai Rock, Avera, Rurutu, Austral Isles, 1 m, rubble and algae inside reef platform, 10 August 1991, J.K. Lowry; AM P54525 (22 ♂ ♂, 75 ♀ ♀), same locality, depth, collector and date, Sargassum-like alga from inner reef platform.

Remarks. In present material, the male gnathopod 2 has a normal merus with the distal margin oblique. In material from Papua New Guinea, the anterodistal margin of the merus of gnathopod 2 is extended so that the distal margin

becomes transverse. This character state, together with a somewhat more elongate and slender merus on the male gnathopod 1, appears to be the only significant difference between present material and that from the type locality. For the present, the two materials are considered as conspecific.

Habitat. Amongst algae (Austral Isles) and sea grasses (Papua New Guinea) in shallow water.

Distribution. Papua New Guinea and the Austral Isles.

Bemlos Shoemaker

Bemlos callistemon n.sp.

Figs. 1–2

Material examined. HOLOTYPE AM P47081 ♂. 4.8 mm. Reef platform in front of Mataura, Tubuai, Austral Isles, 1.5 m depth, calcareous and bottle-brush red algae on coral outcrops, J.K. Lowry, 12 August 1991. PARATYPES AM P47081 (1 ♂, 3 ♀ ♀), same locality, habitat, collector and date, 0.5–2.0 m depth.

Description. Male. Head lateral cephalic lobes apically rounded; eyes clear (in alcohol), with a dark central core. Pereon with sternal spines on segments 1–3. Head