

## Porcellidiidae of Australia (Harpacticoida, Copepoda). II. The Importance of the Male Antennule in Taxonomy

Vernon A. Harris

138/99 Doolong Road, Kawungan Queensland 4655, Australia  
[vaharris@bigpond.com](mailto:vaharris@bigpond.com)

**ABSTRACT.** Nine new species belonging to the Porcellidiidae are described from Queensland and New South Wales, Australia. Two new genera *Ravania* gen. nov., and *Synurus* gen. nov., have been erected to accommodate three new species from Queensland, *Ravania wellsi* sp. nov., *R. doliocauda* sp. nov., and *Synurus ctenocheirus* sp. nov. Two other new species, *Acutiramus bipunctatus* sp. nov., and *Kensakia australis* sp. nov., are also described from Queensland. Four new species are added to the New South Wales list, *Kushia spathoides* sp. nov., *Acutiramus edenensis* sp. nov., *A. cumulus* sp. nov., and *A. iwasakii* sp. nov. A Japanese species, *Clavigofera pacifica*, is recorded from NSW. This brings the total number of species known for the East coast of Australia to 30. The importance of the male antennule in taxonomy of the family is discussed.

**KEYWORDS:** Porcellidiidae, *Porcellidium*, *Ravania*, *Synurus*.

HARRIS, VERNON A. 2014. Porcellidiidae of Australia (Harpacticoida, Copepoda). II. The importance of the male antennule in taxonomy. *Records of the Australian Museum* 66(2): 111–166.

Twenty species of Porcellidiidae have been described from New South Wales and Victoria, but none from Queensland, Australia. They were placed in seven genera (*Porcellidium* and *Acutiramus*, Harris & Robertson (1994), *Tectacingulum*, *Murramia*, *Kioloaria* and *Brevifrons* Harris, (1994) and *Dilatatiocauda*, Harris (2002), however, Walker-Smith (2001) placed *Acutiramus*, *Murramia* and *Kioloaria* in *Porcellidium* on the grounds that they were not based on apomorphic characters. This confusion arose from the fact that the type species for *Porcellidium* had never been adequately described. The re-description of *Porcellidium viride* (see Harris, 2014) has enabled a definitive diagnosis to be given for the genus and the validity of all the proposed

genera to be reassessed. The species recorded from South Australia by Nicholls (1941) are not considered here because his descriptions are inaccurate and do not allow positive identification.

The present account describes five new species from Queensland. Two of these share many features with *Porcellidium ravanae* Thompson & Scott, 1903 which was re-described by Wells & Rao (1987). Some of their characters appear to be apomorphic. This excludes them from *Porcellidium* and so it is proposed to place them in a new genus, *Ravania* gen. nov. A third Queensland species resembles *Porcellidium unicus* Ummerkuty, 1970. They both share a number of apomorphic characters which exclude