

Fairy Shrimps

of California's
Puddles, Pools, and Playas



by
Clyde Eriksen and Denton Belk

The 25 fairy shrimps found in California

<i>Artemia franciscana</i> Kellogg, 1906	San Francisco brine shrimp
<i>Artemia monica</i> Verrill, 1869	Mono Lake brine shrimp
<i>Branchinecta campestris</i> Lynch, 1960	pocketed pouch fairy shrimp
<i>Branchinecta coloradensis</i> Packard, 1874	Colorado fairy shrimp
<i>Branchinecta conservatio</i> Eng, Belk, & Eriksen, 1990	Conservancy fairy shrimp
<i>Branchinecta dissimilis</i> Lynch, 1972	dissimilar fairy shrimp
<i>Branchinecta gigas</i> Lynch, 1937	giant fairy shrimp
<i>Branchinecta lindahli</i> Packard, 1883	versatile fairy shrimp
<i>Branchinecta longiantenna</i> Eng, Belk, & Eriksen, 1990	longhorn fairy shrimp
<i>Branchinecta lynchi</i> Eng, Belk, & Eriksen, 1990	vernal pool fairy shrimp
<i>Branchinecta mackini</i> Dexter, 1956	alkali fairy shrimp
<i>Branchinecta sandiegonensis</i> Fugate, 1993	San Diego fairy shrimp
<i>Branchinecta</i> sp. - 1	midvalley fairy shrimp
<i>Branchinecta</i> sp. - 2	winter fairy shrimp
<i>Branchinecta</i> sp. - 3	mountain fairy shrimp
<i>Eubbranchipus bundyi</i> Forbes, 1876	knobbedlip fairy shrimp
<i>Eubbranchipus oregonus</i> Creaser, 1930	Oregon fairy shrimp
<i>Eubbranchipus serratus</i> Forbes, 1876	ethologist fairy shrimp
<i>Linderiella occidentalis</i> (Dodds, 1923)	California fairy shrimp
<i>Linderiella santarosae</i> Thiery & Fugate, 1994	Santa Rosa Plateau fairy shrimp
<i>Streptocephalus dorotheae</i> Mackin, 1942	New Mexico fairy shrimp
<i>Streptocephalus sealii</i> Ryder, 1879	spinytail fairy shrimp
<i>Streptocephalus texanus</i> Packard, 1871	Great Plains fairy shrimp
<i>Streptocephalus woottoni</i> Eng, Belk, & Eriksen, 1990	Riverside fairy shrimp
<i>Thamnocephalus platyurus</i> Packard, 1879	beavertail fairy shrimp

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by

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Dedication

As a student at the University of California at Santa Barbara in the early 1950s, I (Clyde Eriksen) often accompanied my professor, Dr. Donald M. Wootton, on collecting forays to terrestrial haunts, intertidal habitats, and, in the winter and spring, to rain pools. On one of my first visits to the magical world of a pool, Don showed me a net-full of gorgeous little red-eyed creatures he called fairy shrimps. Their beauty and graceful swimming behavior, combined with Don Wootton's enthusiastic field style, caught my attention. Our collecting sites on the coastal plain near the University are now but a distant memory. The pools were drained or leveled, the earth compacted and built upon to provide different living sites, this time for higher hominids meeting the higher demands of higher education.

During those college years of mine I spent parts of each summer back-packing the John Muir Trail along the crest of the High Sierra. In 1953 and 1954, I cajoled Don into going with me to "collect fairy shrimps". He agreed. We went. And the stories, from burro problems in the snow of Donohue Pass to apple fritters baked at the base of Fin Dome, are legendary – but for another telling. We did net fairy shrimps in many a pool. They were forwarded to the desk of an expert in Ohio, never to be seen again. But no matter, Don had "netted" me, and his fairy shrimps have kept my life-long interest!

In August of 1992, I was pleased to visit again with Donald Wootton and tell him of our plans for this book, a book that for me has been 45 years in the making, and for him will not be read. While outlining this manuscript in January of 1993, I received word that Don, like so many of the other of God's creatures that he studied and loved so well, took his last breath.

Though it is but a small token in appreciation of Donald Wootton's influence on so many young biologists, and in his retirement years on numerous "ordinary citizens", we dedicate this book to his service and memory. And may *Streptocephalus woottoni*, the Riverside fairy shrimp formally named after him in 1990, swim gracefully each rainy season as a tribute to his care for, and our care and consideration of, the life with which we humans share this small planet.



Donald Wootton

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