



Decapod Crustacea collected by the NORFANZ Expedition: Galatheidae and Polychelidae

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Abstract

The present study reports on the squat lobsters (Galatheidae) and blind lobsters (Polychelidae) collected by the 2003 NORFANZ Expedition to the Lord Howe Rise, Norfolk, and West Norfolk Ridges in the northern Tasman Sea. Galatheids and polychelids, both typical components of the outer shelf and slope, were collected from 26 and 36 mostly deep-water stations, respectively. Polychelids were represented by five species in two genera; galatheids by 26 species in ten genera of which one genus and twelve species are new to science. *Munida grievae* Vereshchaka, 2005, and *M. gordonii* Vereshchaka, 2005, both described from northeastern New Zealand, are synonymised with *M. endeavourae* Ah Yong & Poore, 2004, and *M. isos* Ah Yong & Poore, 2004, respectively, both described from eastern Australia.

Key words: Crustacea, Decapoda, Galatheidae, Polychelidae, *Tasmanida*, new genus, new species, taxonomy, NORFANZ, Tasman Sea, New Zealand, Australia

Introduction

The 2003 NORFANZ Expedition to the northern Tasman Sea explored deepwater habitats on the Lord Howe Rise, Norfolk and West Norfolk ridges. Numerous decapod Crustacea were collected, of which the pontonine shrimps and penaeoid prawns have been already reported (Bruce 2004, 2005; Dall 2005). Squat lobsters (Galatheidae) and blind lobsters (Polychelidae), both typical components of the outer shelf and slope, were collected from 26 and 36 NORFANZ stations, respectively. The present study reports on the NORFANZ galatheids and polychelids, represented by 26 species in 10 genera and 5 species in 2 genera, respectively. Two of three species of Galatheidae recently described from New Zealand (Vereshchaka 2005) were collected by the NORFANZ Expedition (see *Agononida nielbrucei* Vereshchaka, 2005, and *Munida endeavourae* Ah Yong & Poore, 2004). Vereshchaka's third species, though not collected by NORFANZ, is also treated below under the account of *Munida isos* Ah Yong & Poore, 2004, to clarify its status.

Materials and methods

Measurements of specimens are given in millimetres (mm) and, unless otherwise indicated, refer to carapace length, measured along the dorsal midline from the rostral apex to the posterior margin of the carapace. Postorbital carapace length (pcl.) is measured along the dorsal midline from the posterior margin of the orbit to the posterior margin of the carapace. Synonymies are restricted to primary synonyms, major works and relevant regional literature. Specimens are deposited in the Australian Museum, Sydney (AM), National Institute of Water and Atmospheric Research, Wellington (NIWA), National Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa, Wellington (NMNZ).