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## Amphipoda (Crustacea) from Palau, Micronesia: Families Dexaminidae, Eusiridae, Hyalidae, Ischyroceridae, Leucothoidae and Lysianassidae

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### Abstract

Thirteen species of amphipod in the families Dexaminidae (1), Eusiridae (1), Hyalidae (1), Ischyroceridae (1), Leucothoidae (8) and Lysianassidae (1) are recorded from Palau in Micronesia. Of these, *Ventojassa palauensis* sp. nov., *Leucothoe beobeldabensis* sp. nov., *L. pseudepidemos* sp. nov., *L. serratissima* sp. nov., *L. tumida* sp. nov., *L. whiteae* sp. nov. and *Paranamixis dentidactylus* sp. nov. are new to science and are described and figured.

**Key words:** Crustacea, Amphipoda, taxonomy, new species, Dexaminidae, Eusiridae, Hyalidae, Ischyroceridae, Leucothoidae, Lysianassidae, Palau, Micronesia

### Introduction

During the 2002 Oxford University Museum Expedition to Palau, amphipods were collected and kindly made available to the author for study by Dr Sammy De Grave. The collection consisted of almost 50 species in 20 families. This second contribution provides information on thirteen species belonging to the families Dexaminidae, Eusiridae, Hyalidae, Ischyroceridae, Leucothoidae and Lysianassidae. Seven species are new to science and are described.

### Materials and methods

The main collecting methods employed were direct removal of potential host taxa for symbiotic shrimps and coral rubble collecting. Other collecting methods deployed were baited traps, light trips (Cyalume) and sweep netting of algae and seagrass. Amphipoda were incidental to the main target, i.e. shrimps and were removed from the sorting trays in which samples were processed when observed. No targeted collecting for Amphipoda was carried out.

Specimens were dissected in alcohol and mounted on slides in glycerol for study. Drawing was accomplished using a drawing tube attached to a compound microscope. Type material is deposited in the Zoological Collection of the Oxford University Museum of Natural History (OUMNH.ZC).

Abbreviations used in figures. Hd = Head; A1, A2 = antenna 1, 2; Lb = Labrum; Md = mandible, Mxp = maxilliped, G1, G2 = gnathopods 1,2; P3–P7 = pereopods 3–7; Ep 1–3 = epimera 1–3; U1–U3 = uropods 1–3; T = telson; M = male; F = female.

## Family Lysianassidae Dana, 1849

### *Parawaldeckia lowryi* Myers

*Parawaldeckia lowryi* Myers, 1985: 97, figs 77, 78.—Lowry & Stoddart, 1995, 109, figs 5–7.

*Parawaldeckia mua* Myers, 1986: 272, figs 2, 3.

**Material examined.** 1 male, (OUMNH.ZC.2002.24.115) Beluu Lukes Reef, drop off, -15m depth; from *Melophlu sarasinorum* Thiele (Porifera: Ancorinidae); 07°17.530'N, 134°30.870'E; leg. S. De Grave & C. Burras, 2 June 2002.

**Distribution.** Fiji, Tonga, Papua New Guinea, Palau.

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