

## Talitridae (Amphipoda, Gammaridea) from the Brazilian coastline

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### Abstract

Surveys along the Brazilian coastline yielded material for the re-description of four semi-terrestrial talitrid species: the Brazilian endemics *Chelorchestia darwinii* (Müller, 1864), *Pseudorchestoidea brasiliensis* (Dana, 1853), which is transferred to *Atlantorchestoidea* gen. nov., and “*Talorchestia*” *tucurauna* (Müller, 1864); and the Atlantic *Platorchestia monodi* (Mateu *et al.*, 1986). The syntype series of *P. platensis* (Kroyer, 1845) was examined and a lectotype and paralectotypes designated. A key for the talitrid species of the Brazilian coastline including some sibling species of *Platorchestia monodi* is provided.

**Key words:** Amphipoda, Talitridae, *Atlantorchestoidea* gen. nov., taxonomy, Brazil

### Introduction

The family Talitridae encompasses about 200 species distributed in 50 genera, representing the only amphipod group that colonized the terrestrial environment. More than half of these genera have species living in tropical and subtropical forests (landhoppers) indicating a strong adaptive radiation of the group in this habitat (Bousfield, 1984). Furthermore, the talitrids are also found in estuaries, and at the supra-littoral region of tropical to temperate coastlines of the world.

Currently, Bousfield's (1982, 1984) classification is followed, where the group is divided in four "systematic-ecological" units as: 1) palustral - semi-aquatic (rarely terrestrial), found in estuarine and some freshwater habitats, non-burrowers; 2) beachhoppers - semi-terrestrial, found in supra-littoral of tropical to boreal coastlines of the world, non-burrowers; 3) sandhoppers - semi-terrestrial, found in the supra-littoral of tropical and temperate sand beaches, burrowers 4) landhoppers, terrestrial, found in rain forest, mainly non-burrowers. These units were defined by Bousfield (1984) as "polyphyletic and overlapping, but pragmatically useful", being clearly no monophyletic clades.