



Six new species of the brine shrimp *Parartemia* Sayce 1903 (Crustacea: Anostraca: Artemiina) in Western Australia

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Abstract

The Australian anostracan fauna is generically depauperate, but species-rich due to radiation within *Branchinella* and also *Parartemia*. Most *Parartemia*, including the six new species, occur in Western Australia, with *P. boomeranga* **sp. nov.** in the inner Wheatbelt, *P. mouritzi* **sp. nov.** in the eastern Wheatbelt, *P. purpurea* **sp. nov.** in the Esperance hinterland, *P. veronicae* **sp. nov.** in the Goldfields, *P. bicorna* **sp. nov.** in Lake Carey in the northern Goldfields and *P. laticaudata* **sp. nov.** in the far north and the Northern Territory. All species use lock and key amplexus meaning that the second antennae of males are highly differentiated and in females the last few thoracomeres are variously modified and the 10th, and especially 11th, thoracopods much reduced. Although many of the new species occur in remote salinas, some are endangered due to anthropogenic salinisation.

Key words: taxonomy, lock and key amplexus, dispersal, thoracopods, *Parartemia longicaudata*, salinas