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## A new species of *Tongorchestia* from Bora Bora in the leeward Society Islands (Crustacea, Amphipoda, Talitridae)

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### Abstract

The new species *Tongorchestia borabora* **sp. nov.** is described from Vaitape in Bora Bora, Leeward Islands, Society Islands. This is the first talitrid amphipod reported from Bora Bora and the third species of *Tongorchestia* from the Western Pacific oceanic islands. Currently *Tongorchestia* is endemic to oceanic islands in the Western Pacific.

**Key words:** Crustacea, Amphipoda, Talitridae, *Tongorchestia*, taxonomy, new species, Bora Bora

### Introduction

Lowry & Bopiah (2013) described the talitrid amphipods of Tonga. Among the fauna there were two species in the genus *Tongorchestia* Lowry & Bopiah, 2013. Recently in sorting through collections made by Alan Myers in 1986 from the volcanic island of Bora Bora, in the Society Islands, we came across the third species in this genus. Bora Bora is a considerable range extension from Tonga, 2500 km to the west of the Society Islands. The only other documentation of amphipods from Bora Bora is Myers (1989), who reported three species, the eusirid *Ronco sosa* J.L. Barnard, 1965, the maerid *Elasmopus integer* Myers, 1989 and the ischyrocerid *Jassa socia* Myers, 1989. An interesting new character for talitrid amphipods is the groups of scales on the ventroproximal side of the head in both males and females. These clumps are usually covered by pereonite 1 and the first coxal plate but in figure 5 they are clearly visible. We have no idea as to the function of these scales but they appear to be common among talitrid species.

### *Tongorchestia* Lowry & Bopiah, 2013

*Tongorchestia* Lowry & Bopiah, 2013: 359.

### *Tongorchestia borabora* **sp. nov.**

(Figs 1–5)

**Type material.** Holotype, male, 9.7 mm, AM P.92565 supralittoral, strandline debris, Bay of Faaopore, near Club Mediterranee, Viatape, Bora Bora, Society Islands (16°30'S 151°45'30"W), A.A. Myers, 29 December, 1986. Paratypes: female, AM P.92566; 11 specimens, AM P.38809, same data as holotype.

**Type locality.** Supralittoral, strandline debris, Bay of Faaopore, near the old Club Mediterranee, Viatape, Bora Bora, Society Islands (16°30'S 151°45'30"W).

**Etymology.** Named for the type locality, Bora Bora.

**Habitat.** Living among strandline debris in the supralittoral zone.

**Description.** Based on holotype, male, 9.7 mm, AM P.92565.

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