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Review of the buccal-attaching fish parasite genus *Glossobius* Schioedte & Meinert, 1883 (Crustacea: Isopoda: Cymothoidae)

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Abstract

Two species of *Glossobius* Schioedte & Meinert, 1883 are known from Australia: *Glossobius anctus* Bruce & Bowman, 1989 and *Glossobius impressus* (Say, 1818), the latter recorded here for the first time from Australia and southern Africa. *Glossobius ogasawarensis* Nunomura, 1994 is here placed in synonymy with *Glossobius auritus* Bovallius, 1885; whereas *Glossobius crassa* (Dana, 1853) is removed from synonymy with *G. auritus* and placed into *nomen dubium*. *Glossobius arimae* Nunomura, 2001 is transferred to the genus *Ceratothoa* Dana, 1852. A key to the species of *Glossobius* is presented.

Key words: Cymothoidae, *Glossobius*, southern Africa, Australia, fish parasite, Beloniformes

Introduction

Recently there has been considerable attention to the taxonomy of the family Cymothoidae Leach, 1814, notably from southern Africa (Hadfield *et al.* 2010, 2011, 2013, 2014a, b; Martin *et al.* 2014b); and Australia (Martin *et al.* 2013, 2014a). Knowledge of the buccal-attaching genera from Australia rests with the early works of Hale (1926), Avdeev (1978, 1979a, b), Bruce & Bowman (1989), and Bruce (1990). Martin *et al.* (2013, 2014a, 2015, in press) reviewed the genera *Ceratothoa* Dana, 1852, *Cymothoa* Fabricius, 1793 and *Smenispa* Özdikem, 2009. This contribution continues the revision of the Australian buccal-attaching Cymothoidae, with a review of the genus *Glossobius* Schioedte & Meinert, 1883, primarily parasitic on hosts of the order Beloniformes and including a redescription of *Glossobius impressus* (Say, 1818).

Schioedte & Meinert (1883), when describing *Glossobius*, included two species, *Glossobius laticauda* (= *Glossobius auritus* Bovallius, 1855) and *Glossobius linearis* (= *G. impressus*). More than a century later, Williams & Williams (1985) described a new species (*Glossobius hemiramphi* Williams & Williams 1985) and Bruce & Bowman (1989) comprehensively revised and provided a key to the species of the genus *Glossobius*, designated a type species and described a new species (*Glossobius anctus* Bruce & Bowman 1989). Subsequently, a further three species have been described (*Glossobius parexocoetii* Kononenko & Mordvinova, 1988; *Glossobius ogasawarensis* Nunomura, 1994; *Glossobius arimae* Nunomura, 2001) bringing the total number of *Glossobius* species to seven.

While examining specimens of *Glossobius* from Australian and southern African waters, it became apparent that of the two species of Japanese *Glossobius*, one is incorrectly placed in the genus and the other is a junior synonym, reducing the number of accepted species in the genus to five. We redescribe *G. impressus*, new to Australian and southern African waters; present a list of valid *Glossobius* species (see Table 1), and describe the known host-associations and the distribution of these cymothoids.