

**SIRIELLA BACESCUI SP. N. (CRUSTACEA, MYSIDACEA)
FROM THE NORTH-EASTERN AUSTRALIAN WATERS**

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L'étude d'une petite collection de Mysidacés placés dans le genre *Siriella* provenant des eaux littorales du NE de l'Australie et envoyés au Muséum « Grigore Antipa » par le dr. A. J. Bruce, a permis à l'auteur de décrire une nouvelle espèce, *Siriella bacescui*, et d'ajouter quelques commentaires concernant les affinités morphologiques de cette espèce avec les autres espèces d'Australie.

Thanks to the kindness of Dr M. Băcescu, the Director of “Grigore Antipa” Natural History Museum, I received for study four samples containing Mysids of genus *Siriella* Dana, 1852, collected on the 7-th of May 1979 by Dr A. J. Bruce from the Heron Island Station, Queensland, Australia.

In these samples I identified two known species *Siriella quadrispinosa* Hansen, 1910 and *Siriella vulgaris* Hansen, 1910 as well as a new species:

***Siriella bacescui* sp. n.**

(Fig. 1 A—K)

Diagnosis: Mysid provided on the lateral margin of telson with 17—20 spines, two pairs of which are placed on basal side. Exopodite of uropod is a bit longer than endopodite and it shows 0—4 spines on outer edge. Exopodite is provided on inner margin with small spines in groups of 2—3, bordered by 2 longer and thicker ones. Males with well developed pleopods without modified setae apically. Carpo-propod of third to eighth thoracic limbs is not segmented.

Material and collecting side: 1 adult male; 6 ovigerous females.

The material was collected on surface, at night light, depth over 15 m., loc. Bennett, Isl. Chesterfield, N—E of Australia.

Description of adult male. Carapace covers almost completely the penultimate thoracic segment leaving uncovered more than 3/4 of the last one.

Its anterior margin extends under the form of a triangular rostrum (Fig. 1 A) Posterior margin is smooth and concave while the dorsal margin, except “sulcus”, does not show prominences.

Eyes with dark ruby — coloured corneal part. Peduncles short and thick (Fig. 1 A).

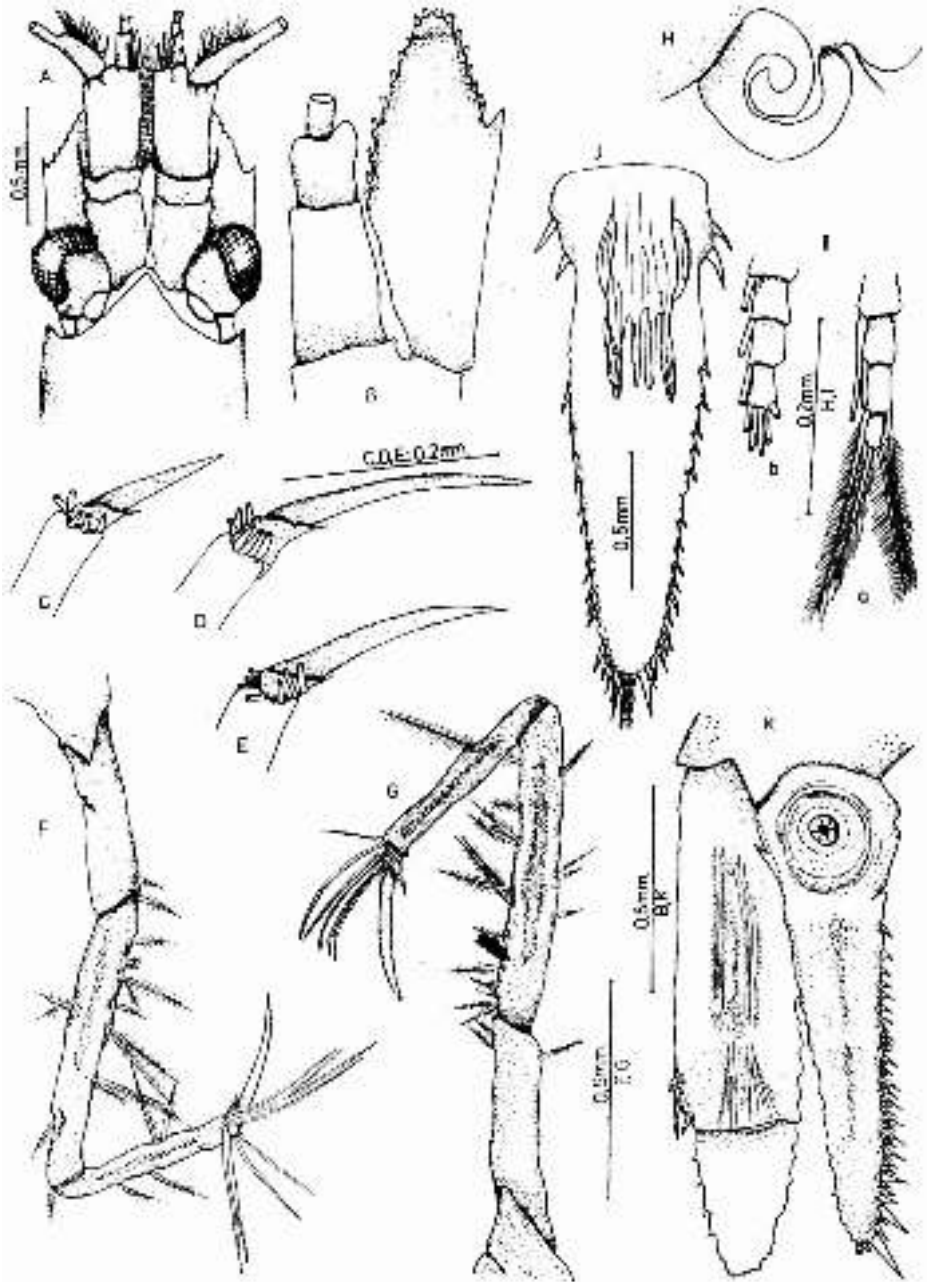


Fig. 1 A—K *Siriella bacescui* sp. n., ♂. A, Dorsal view of anterior end; B, antennal scale and peduncle; C, D, E, apical part of 1-st, 5-th and 6-th pereopods; F, G, endopods of 6-th and 5-th pereopods; H, pseudobranchial rami of 4-th pleopod; I, apical part of 4-th pleopod a, exopodite; b, endopodite; J, telson; K, uropod.

Antenna shows a peduncle shorter than the scale; its second joint is 2.5 times longer than the last one. Antennal scale (Fig. 1 B) is 2.6–2.8 longer than wide, with smooth outer margin ending in a strong tooth; apical part, with setae, represents 1/3 of total length; the articulation of the scale is indistinct in male and clear in female.

Third to eighth thoraci limbs, although robust, have an elegant aspect with their long dactilo-claws (Fig. 1 E–G). All pereopods show not jointed carpo-propod. The ratio between the length of claws and their width at the basis established through Băcescu's (1940) method varies as follows (Fig. 1 C, D, E): 4–1–4.5 (1st pair), 7.3–7.5 (5th pair) and 6.6–6.8 (6th pair). In both cases the ratio variation in length is given by the variation in length of dactilo-claws, the width of basis and the length of carpo-propod being approximately the same for all thoracic limbs.

Pleopods are well developed in male, with exopodite a bit longer than endopodite (Fig. 1 I a, b); apically, their setae are not modified and pseudo-branchial rami are spirally twisted (Fig. 1 H).

Telson about as long as the last abdominal somite. It is 3.2 times longer than wide (Fig. 1 J), with slightly sinuous margins armed with 17–22 spines. The spines bordering the block of apical laminae are longer than the lateral ones.

Uropod (Fig. 1 K) with exopodite a bit longer than endopodite. On outer side, exopodite shows 3–4 spines in female and 4 in male. Two of the studied adult females do not show spines. The apical joint of exopodite is long, representing 3.4–3.6 of its total length.

Endopodite is provided, on inner margin, with 45–48 spines arranged in groups of 2–3 small bordered by 2 longer and thicker ones. The spines grow in length towards the anterior to posterior side.

Holotype: adult male, 7.1 mm, in the Crustacean collection of "Grigore Antipa" Museum, no. 577.

allotype: adult female, 7.8 mm, ditto, no. 578.

paratypes: adult females, 7, 7.1, 7.3, 7.8, 8.4 mm., ditto, no. 579.

Derivatio nominis. This species is dedicated to Prof. dr. Mihai Băcescu in acknowledgement of his kind help and guidance.

Remarks. *Siriella bacescui* shows many affinities with *S. vulgaris*. It differs from it in the following morphological features:

1. carpo-propod of thoracic limbs not jointed; 2. antennal scale broader (2.6–2.8 longer than broad as compared to 3–3.2); 3. Number of spines on exopod of uropod smaller (0–4 as compared to 3–9), 4. Average length of specimens' body (with the reserve of the reduced number of available specimens) is 7–7.5 as compared to 5.5–6.1.

Siriella bacescui is easily distinguished from *S. gracilis* Dana, 1852 as it is provided with an exopodite of uropod longer than endopodite.

The structure of carpo-propod and the length of dactyloclaws approach the new species to *S. vincenti* Tattersall, 1927. Unlike this latter, it shows a shorter antennal scale with longer apical side; the spines of uropodal endopodite disposed in groups; two pairs of spines at the basis of telson.

It differs from *S. longidactyla* Tattersall, 1940, which it resembles in the length of dactylo-claws, in the not jointed carpo-propod and in the smooth, not plumose spines on apical side of telson.

The lack of protuberances on the dorsal side of carapace in female leads me to separate the new species from *S. nodosa* Handen, 1910.

The aspect of pseudobranchial rami on the pleopods of males, the fact that no seta on the apical side of pleopods is modified and that the spines from outer edge of uropodal exopodite extend less than 1/2 of its length, are all characteristics allowing me to include *Siriella bacescui* in the *Thomsoni* group established by Ii (1964).

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SIRIELLA BACESCUI SP.N. (CRUSTACEA, MYSIDACEA) DIN APELE NORD-EST AUSTRALIENE

REZUMAT

Studiind miside din genul *Siriella* colectate de Dr A. J. Bruce din apele de N—E ale Australiei, autorul identifică trei specii. Două dintre acestea, *Siriella vulgaris* și *Siriella quadrispinosa*, au fost semnalate anterior în regiunea respectivă, de mai mulți autori; cea de-a treia, nouă pentru știință, este numită *Siriella bacescui*. Specia nouă este descrisă. Se fac o serie de comentarii cu privire la afinitățile morfologice ale acesteia cu alte specii ale genului prezente în apele australiene.

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