

# Memoirs of Museum Victoria

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Museum Victoria, formerly the Museum of Victoria, was formed in 1983 by the merger of the National Museum of Victoria (established in 1854) and the Science Museum of Victoria (established in 1870). Museum Victoria undertakes research in order to contribute to a deeper understanding and appreciation of the origins, diversity and development of Australia's natural, cultural and scientific heritage, and applies this knowledge for the benefit of society. Museum Victoria publishes its scientific journal *Memoirs of Museum Victoria* (until 1983 *Memoirs of the National Museum of Victoria*) to further these objectives.

The *Memoirs* publishes papers on original research in the natural sciences pertinent to Victoria and/or the Museum's collections. All contributions are assessed by independent referees before publication.

From Volume 58 (2000) the *Memoirs* is available in electronic format as well as in printed form from the Museum Victoria website. Electronic publication will enable inclusion of supplementary information (such as extended data-sets) not available in the printed version.

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#### Editorial Committee

The *Memoirs of Museum Victoria* is published by order of the Museums Board of Victoria. Acceptance of papers is handled by the Editorial Committee which will seek the widest possible advice from referees. Papers should be submitted in the first instance to the Scientific Editor, Museum Victoria, GPO Box 666E, Melbourne, Vic. 3001, Australia (memoirs@museum.vic.gov.au).

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#### Instructions to Authors

Three copies of the manuscript with accompanying plates and figures should be submitted to the Scientific Editor, Museum Victoria, GPO Box 666E, Melbourne, Victoria 3001, Australia (memoirs@museum.vic.gov.au). Authors should consult a recent volume of the *Memoirs* to acquaint themselves with format. Manuscripts must be typed on A4 paper, 1.5-spaced, on one side of the paper, or submitted totally in electronic form as attached files by email. Except for short papers (less than 10 manuscript pages) electronic presentation of the text

and figures of the final accepted manuscript (on disk or as an attached emailed file) is essential. PC format is preferred.

Papers should be arranged as follows: title (including higher classification of zoological taxa); authors' names and addresses (postal and email); abstract; key words; contents (only if the paper is very long); introduction and main text; acknowledgements; references; index (only if very long); and tables. Captions to text-figures and plates must be attached to the manuscript as final pages. Primary headings are in bold and left-justified; secondary headings in italics and left justified. Italics in the text should otherwise be restricted to generic and specific names. Paragraphs are indented with tabs. Measurements must be in the metric system (SI units).

Figure captions should follow this example:

Figure 1. *Storhynghurella hirsuta* sp. nov., male, holotype: a, b, dorsal and lateral views of body; c, d, frontal and lateral views of cephalon.

References should be listed alphabetically at the end of the manuscript. Journal titles must be in full. References to books must give the year of publication, edition, name of publisher and city of publication. Use the style and punctuation in the following examples for articles, books and chapters:

Paulin, C.D. 1986. A new genus and species of morid fish from shallow coastal waters of southern Australia. *Memoirs of Museum Victoria* 47: 201–206.

Last, P.R., and Stevens, J.D. 1994. *Sharks and rays of Australia*. CSIRO Publishing: Melbourne. 513 pp.

Wilson, B.R., and Allen, G.R. 1987. Major components and distribution of marine fauna. Pp. 43–68 in: Dyne, G.R. and Watson, D.W. (eds), *Fauna of Australia. General articles*. Vol. 1A. Australian Government Publishing Service: Canberra.

Reference citations use the following style: Paulin, 1986; Last and Stevens, 1994; Smith et al., 1990.

In taxonomic papers synonymies should be of the form: taxon, author, year, pages, figures. A period and dash must separate taxon and author except in the case of reference to the original description, e.g.

*Leontocaris* Stebbing, 1905: 98–99.—Barnard, 1950: 699.

Photographs must have clear definition and be submitted as either glossy or flat prints at the actual size for reproduction, or preferably as electronic files. Line drawings for text-figures should be in black ink on white card or drawing film, Original line drawings up to three times final size are acceptable but scanned B&W images at 600 dpi are preferred. Maximum full-page size is 175 mm wide by 224 mm; single column width is 85 mm. Clear lettering must be inserted.

Supplementary information (extended lists of material examined, databases etc.) should be submitted electronically with the original manuscript and will be included with material sent to referees. The Editorial Board encourages use of supplementary information to minimise the cost of printing as long as the requirements of the International Code of Zoological Nomenclature are met in the printed paper.



## Special issue – New species of Australian fishes

### Memoirs of Museum Victoria volume 63 issue 1

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This issue of the *Memoirs of Museum Victoria* presents a selection of papers on the taxonomy of fishes intended to improve our understanding of Australian fish biodiversity. It is the third in a series of such publications, the first appearing in 1987 as Volume 48, Number 1 of the *Memoirs of the Museum of Victoria*. Intended as a venue for new names and descriptions of recognised, but formally undescribed, species, the volume contained 20 papers by 15 authors that described as new two genera and 33 species. As a continuing initiative of OzFishNet, a consortium of collection-based Australian ichthyologists formed to promote research, data access and other issues of mutual interest to the Australian community (<http://www.amonline.net.au/FISHES/ozfishnet/>), a second publication, Volume 56, Number 2 of the *Records of the Australian Museum* published in 2004 contained descriptions of an additional genus and 33 species. In that volume, the 17 papers authored by 21 scientists also clarified inadequate perceptions of related Australian forms.

The current issue was conceived prior to the publication of the 2004 volume of the *Records* to pick up the overflow of

papers expected for that publication, knowing that its accelerated publication time line would be beyond the capability of some intended contributors. Like its predecessors it is also intended to continue the publication of names and descriptions so that scientific colleagues have the means to better understand the natural environment with which they are working. The present contribution contains 12 papers by 19 authors and describes a new genus and 15 species, as well as clarifying our understanding of closely related forms and laying out a worldwide taxonomic framework for a family having more than 70 nominal species.

Although these publications provide important steps toward a full documentation of Australia's fish fauna, the job is far from complete. Despite a decline in number of taxonomic ichthyologists in Australia and a reduction in number of positions for members of the profession in Australian institutions, new fishes continue to be discovered at about the same rate as they have at any time in the last 25 years. The rate of their discovery approximates the rate at which new species are being described. A dedicated group of scientists continue to work away, behind the scene, to further this tradition.



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