Redescription of Four Species of Lagenophryid Peritrichs (Ciliophora) from Australia and New Guinea, With Descriptions of Two New Species

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ABSTRACT. Four insufficiently described species of ectosymbiotic peritrich ciliates in the family Lagenophryidae that occur on crustacean hosts in Australia and New Guinea are redescribed. These include two species of *Operculigera* from phreatoicid isopods, one species of *Setonophrys* from a phreatoicid isopod, and one species of *Lagenophrys* from a palaemonid shrimp. Two undescribed species of *Operculigera*, also found on phreatoicid isopods, are described for the first time. Australian species of *Operculigera* appear to be restricted to phreatoicid hosts. This is unusual because a diverse array of other lagenophryids occur on parastacid crayfish in Australia. Furthermore, species of *Operculigera* are conspicuous symbionts of parastacids and various freshwater crabs in Chile and Madagascar. In addition to this peculiarity of distribution, the Australian species of *Operculigera* appear to comprise a morphologically distinct group within the genus.