

Anaspidesidae, a new family for syncarid crustaceans formerly placed in Anaspididae Thomson, 1893

SHANE T. AHYONG^{1*} AND MIGUEL A. ALONSO-ZARAZAGA²

¹ Australian Museum Research Institute,
Australian Museum, 1 William Street, Sydney NSW 2010, Australia, and
School of Biological, Earth & Environmental Sciences,
University of New South Wales NSW 2052, Australia
shane.ahyong@austmus.gov.au

² Depto. de Biodiversidad y Biología Evolutiva, Museo Nacional de Ciencias Naturales (CSIC),
José Gutiérrez Abascal 2, E-28006 Madrid, Spain
zarazaga@mncn.csic.es

ABSTRACT. The anaspidean syncarid shrimps of the genera *Anaspides* Thomson, 1894, *Allanaspides* Swain, Wilson, Hickman & Ong, 1970, and *Paranaspides* Smith, 1908, have long been placed in the family Anaspididae Thomson, 1893. Anaspididae Thomson, 1893, however, was formed on a homonymous type genus, *Anaspis* Thomson, 1893, preoccupied by *Anaspis* Geoffroy, 1762 (Insecta: Coleoptera), and is therefore invalid. Anaspididae is also a junior homonym of Anaspidinae Mulsant, 1856 (Coleoptera), and is likewise invalid. There being no synonyms available in place of Anaspididae, we establish a new family, Anaspidesidae, to accommodate taxa previously placed in Anaspididae.

KEYWORDS. Crustacea; Anaspideacea; Anaspididae; Anaspidinae; Tasmania; freshwater; nomenclature.

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The endemic freshwater Tasmanian shrimps of the family Anaspididae Thomson, 1893, are best known from the iconic *Anaspides tasmaniae* (Thomson, 1893), often thought of as a “living fossil” (Ahyong, 2016). *Anaspides* Thomson, 1894 was initially thought to reside among the now defunct Schizopoda, in proximity to mysidaceans (Thomson, 1893, 1894). Calman (1897, 1904), however, recognized the syncarid affinities of *Anaspides*, for which he erected the order Anaspideacea Calman, 1904.

Thomson (1893) originally described *Anaspis tasmaniae* in a new genus, *Anaspis*, and a new family, Anaspidae. Unfortunately, *Anaspis* Thomson, 1893, being preoccupied by *Anaspis* Geoffroy, 1762 (Insecta: Coleoptera), rendered Thomson’s new genus name invalid. Likewise, the name

Anaspidae Thomson, 1893, is also invalid, having been formed on a homonymous type genus (Article 39, International Code of Zoological Nomenclature; hereafter, the Code, ICZN, 1999) and being at the same time a homonym of Anaspidinae Mulsant, 1856 (based on *Anaspis* Geoffroy, 1762). On advice from T. R. R. Stebbing, Thomson (1894: 38) proposed a replacement genus name, selecting *Anaspides* “so that the name of the new order may not have to be changed”. Thomson (1894) was incorrect in retaining the spelling Anaspidae, corrected by subsequent authors (Smith, 1908) to Anaspididae, the family-group name now in use for more than a century for Thomson’s taxon. Although Thomson (1894) replaced *Anaspis* Thomson, 1893, with *Anaspides*, he did not act to create a new family in place of