

INLAND FISHERIES COMMISSION NEWSLETTER

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DEWAR'S WORLD FLY FISHING CHAMPIONSHIP

Tasmania is set to stage the 8th World Fly Fishing Championship from 26 November to 2 December 1988.

The Championship is conducted under the auspices of the Federation Internationale de la Peche Sportive en Eau Douce (FIPS-ed) which is affiliated with the Confederation Internationale de la Peche Sportive (CIPS). FIPS-ed is responsible for organising and promoting world championships in fresh water, internationally, on the basis of friendship and understanding as expressed through the Olympic ideal.

The previous seven world championships have been conducted in Luxembourg, Spain (twice), Italy, Poland, Belgium and England. Participation has grown steadily with twenty countries competing last year, including teams from Europe, the British Isles, Canada, New Zealand and Australia.

Tasmania, Australia has been chosen as the venue for the 8th World Fly Fishing Championship. This is the first time the event has been conducted outside Europe and it is appropriate that the Tasmanian event coincides with Australia's Bicentennial Year.

Already a number of countries have confirmed their intention to enter a team to compete in Tasmania. Positive initial responses have been received from –

Australia	Kenya
Belgium	Luxembourg
Canada	New Zealand
England	Norway
Finland	Spain
France	United States of America
Ireland	Wales
Italy	West Germany

In a number of instances the intense interest in the Tasmanian event has already been demonstrated through reconnaissances by team representatives and journalists.

An Organising Committee has been formed to oversee arrangements and conduct of the Championship in conjunction with the Australian Fresh Water Fishermen's Assembly which is affiliated with CIPS. The Committee is chaired by **Mr Spencer Logue**, the current Secretary of the Tasmanian Fly Tyers Club, a former State Manager of Australian Airlines and a past Chairman of the Tasmanian Tourist Council. Other Tasmanian members of the Committee include –

Dr Robert Sloane
Commissioner of Inland Fisheries

Mr David Williams
Director, Department of Sport and Recreation

Mr Alan Turner
Advertising Manager, Tourism Tasmania

Mr Keith Alcock
Member, Tasmanian Fly Tyers Club
Former Manager, Australian Guarantee Corporation

Mr Jason Garrett
Proprietor, London Lakes
Member, Tasmanian Professional Trout Fishing Guides Association

The Australian Fresh Water Fishermen's Assembly will be represented by John Sautelle Jnr. from

New South Wales and Andrew Fink from Western Australia. Together with Dr Sloane, representing the Inland Fisheries Commission, the Assembly representatives will be largely responsible for negotiating the competition rules and supervising technical aspects of the event in association with CIPS officials.

The Governor of Tasmania, General Sir Phillip Bennett, who has a personal interest in fly fishing, has agreed to be Patron of the 8th World Fly Fishing Championship. The event has also been



Australian team members at the 1987 World Fly Fishing Championship in England.

approved as an Endorsed Bicentennial Activity and has been registered as part of the Go Fish Australia '88 celebrations.

Already significant private and Government sponsorship offers have been received, with Dewar's White Label Scotch Whisky taking the principal sponsorship role. The Dewar's offer resulted from preliminary discussions held in England at last year's World Championship, where Dewar's presented a 1 000 pound travel prize to the successful Australian team (the Australian team secured second place in the 1987 Championship).

The World Championship is open to national teams of five competitors and will be judged on the number and quality of trout landed during three days of competition.

As Australia does not have an internal competition structure to provide team selection it was decided, after considerable discussion, that each 'trout fishing' State be represented by one angler. The Australian team will thus comprise one angler from Tasmania, Victoria, New South Wales, South Australia, Western Australia and the Australian Capital Territory. A Team Captain will be decided by majority agreement and the Captain will select the final team of five after appropriate practice fishing.

Bronte Park Highland Village has been selected as the main accommodation venue for the Cham-

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by Pierre Horwitz

pionship and, although details are yet to be finalised, Bronte Lagoon, Little Pine Lagoon and London Lakes are being assessed as fishing venues.

The proposed itinerary for the Championship includes a reception and welcoming dinner for invited guests in Hobart on Saturday 26 November. Competitors and guests will travel to Bronte via Salmon Ponds on Sunday 27 November and will have the first official opportunity to view the competition waters. Monday 28 November will be a formal practice day and Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday will be competition days.

At this stage it is proposed that a major presentation barbecue will be held on Friday 2 December. The sale of a limited number of tickets to participate in the barbecue will allow interested local fly fishers to meet and mingle with the overseas guests.

Each of the participating overseas teams will be allocated a local volunteer guide who will coach and assist the team during their stay in Tasmania. To date most teams have indicated that they intend to arrive in Tasmania on 20 or 21 November to gain unofficial practice before the Championship.

Guides will be carefully selected on the basis of fly fishing experience and general suitability which will include factors such as foreign language skill. Already a number of professional trout fishing

guides have volunteered their services.

The expected eighty or so competitors will each be allocated an official controller during each fishing session. This will require careful coordination and a great deal of voluntary assistance from local fly fishers.

Local, national and international media coverage of the event is expected and already many magazine journalists and several television networks have expressed interest. The general novelty and appeal of the World Fly Fishing Championship appears to have captured media interest and whilst the event is unknown to many Australians, it receives wide media attention overseas.

The Tasmanian Inland Fisheries Commission is providing total support and commitment towards the Championship, although the merits of competition fly fishing may be doubtful to many local anglers. The Championship is regarded as a unique opportunity to focus attention on the wild trout fishery in Tasmania and to enhance public and political awareness of the vast recreational and tourism benefits of this resource.

LAKE FOX/DOUGLAS SURVEY

There have been a number of requests from the North Western Fisheries Association to stock some of the headwaters of the Lake McKenzie system, specifically in the area of lakes Fox, Douglas, Chambers and Johnny. Although other lakes in the area are known to contain good populations of trout, eg. lakes Explorer, Nameless and Halkyard, the former lakes do not have a good reputation.

A survey of lakes in this system was undertaken from 7-9 December 1987 with access being gained by helicopter. Present stocks were examined by gill netting and angling whilst suitability of tributary streams for spawning was also checked. Nets were set in pairs in four lakes during the survey.

The catch was as follows -

Lake	Mullet Net	Graball Net
Halkyard	6	4
Douglas	-	-
Fox	2	-
Johnny	-	2

The two fish from Lake Fox were rainbow trout whilst the rest were brown trout. A further two fish were caught by angling in Lake Halkyard and four in Lake Nameless.

The fish catch in Lake Halkyard compares favourably with other netting surveys, eg. of Lake McKenzie and Great Lake in terms of numbers per metre of net. However, the catch for lakes Fox, Douglas and Johnny is much lower despite good net sites.

It would appear from these initial results that trout stocks are low in the Lake Fox to Lake Johnny chain. However, those fish that were caught were in excellent condition compared with the fish from Lake Halkyard.

An examination of the catchment showed that these lakes do not have an extensive drainage. Lake Fox is at the head of the catchment with virtually no suitable spawning areas. It is relatively deep in the middle with mostly rocky shores. Lakes Douglas, Chambers and Johnny are downstream, all at about the same level and closely connected. They are relatively shallow with a silty bottom and some rocky shorelines. Again, spawning areas are quite limited.

Although few fish are present, it does not appear that these waters are unsuitable. They have not been previously stocked, with the exception of the apparently illegal rainbow trout stocking of Lake Fox, and they have probably only received a few fish via a difficult stream access from Lake Explorer.

Although further analysis of trout growth in the area will be made, it appears that stocking of some part of this system would be worthwhile.

BROWN TROUT LIBERATIONS

During September and October 1987 brown trout fry were released into a number of waters around the State. As in previous years, a number of angling clubs undertook to on-grow the brown trout fry allocated to their districts prior to liberation in local waters.

Brown Trout Fry Liberations

Name of Water	Locality	Number
Major Public Storages		
Reedy Marsh Dam	Westbury	45 000
Lake Waverley	Launceston	5 000
Cleveland Lagoon		5 000
Craigbourne Dam	Richmond	50 000
Rileys Creek Dam		20 000
Tooms Lake		45 000
Lake Barrington		40 000
		210 000
North		
C. Atkins	Longford	5 000
R. Mitchelson	Westbury	15 000
J. Ibbott	Emu Plains	5 000
J.W. Broomby	Hagley	5 000
Cressy Branch	Carnaven	10 000
S.M. Scott (2)	Hagley	10 000
Bishopsbourne Branch	Longford	10 000
T.G.M. Keach	Blackhill	2 000
L.O. Evans	Deloraine	10 000
Scottsdale Branch	Rearing Unit	75 000
		147 000
South and East		
R. Hazell	Margate	5 000
M. Wilson	Lebrina	200
		5 200
North West		
Rearing Pond	Forest	5 000
Rearing Pond	Penguin	5 000
Rearing Pond	North Motton	83 000
Rearing Pond	Devonport	42 000
		135 000

The Scottsdale Branch experienced heavy early mortalities at their Kamona rearing unit and liberated the remaining 35 000 brown trout fry directly into Blackmans Lagoon.

The Devonport rearing unit did not receive fry until 26 October and retained the fish in their facility for one month. The Devonport Branch successfully raised 36 500 fish, an 87 percent survival rate. The fish were liberated as follows -

Devonport Rearing Unit

Name	Locality	Number
M. Ford	Newground	18 000
Lake No Where Else		5 400
O. Wootton	Sheffield	3 600
Briggs	Forth	1 800
Whiteway	Aberdeen	1 800
Loane	East Devonport	1 000
Yaxley's Juvenile Dam	Latrobe	2 600
Bennett	East Devonport	1 800
Sheffield School	Sheffield	500
		36 500

The North Motton rearing unit successfully reared 63 780 fingerlings, achieving a 65 percent survival rate. Brown trout fingerlings were liberated as follows -

North Motton Rearing Unit

Name	Locality	Number
Leven River	Purtons Flats to Lobster Creek	9 800
Mersey River	Caroline Creek	3 000
Lake Barrington		10 700
Pet Dam		15 000
Thompson	Calder	650
Rawson	West Moreville	1 300
T. Morris	Highclare	650
Reeves	Preolenna	3 600
Atkinson	Stowport	650
J. Scully	Kindred	400
D. Harding	Preston	300
T. McMullen	Preston	300
M. Johnstone	Ulverstone	100
K. Cook	Abbotsham	800
J. Charlestone	Kindred	200
I. Smith	Erriba	1 200
C. Langmaid	Kindred	1 200
B. Elliott	Railton	300
L. Geale	Sprent	200
S. McConnon	Kindred	200
H. Morris	Kindred	800
G. McKenna	Ulverstone	230
R. Hingston	Sprent	1 400
G. Hingston	North Motton	200
D. Cooper	Preston	200
T. Pickett	Abbotsham	350
P. Chilcott	North Motton	700
J. Polden	Abbotsham	300
L. Shadbolt	North Motton	900
L. Sims	North Motton	400
G. Harwood	Kindred	200
B. Walters	South Riana	400
G. McKenna	Kindred 1 900	
J. Gatehouse	Upper Castra	1 000
G. McKenna	Spalford	150
P. Baker	Kindred	200
		59 880

The Gunns Plains/Preston branches raised 850 brown trout fingerlings and liberated them in Lake Isandula.

The Penguin Branch liberated 3 900 brown trout fingerlings, raised at North Motton, on 25 November 1987 as follows -

Penguin Branch Liberations

Name	Locality	Number
M. Gee	West Pine	400
A. Applebee	Riana	600
G. Davey	West Pine	600
A. Tyson	Pine Road	100
P. Kaine	Pine Road	100
P. Geeves	West Pine	300
D. Smith	Penguin	300
G. Mundy	West Pine	200
B. Bott	West Pine	400
R. Gee	South Riana	200
B. Carr	South Riana	600
Penguin Golf Club	Penguin	100
		3 900

IN BRIEF

Liawenee Open Day

The annual Open Day will be held at the Commission's Liawenee Field Station on Sunday 1 May commencing at 11am. Visitors are invited to inspect the Commission's facilities and to view the brown trout spawning run. Staff will be available for informal discussions and brown trout eggs will be stripped and collected on the day. Please take advantage of this opportunity.

Great Lake Special Edition

The public response to the Special Edition Inland Fisheries Commission Newsletter on the Great Lake trout fishery was overwhelming and supplies of this issue were quickly exhausted. The Great Lake edition has now been reprinted and copies are available from the Commission free of charge.

FRESHWATER CRAYFISH IN TASMANIA

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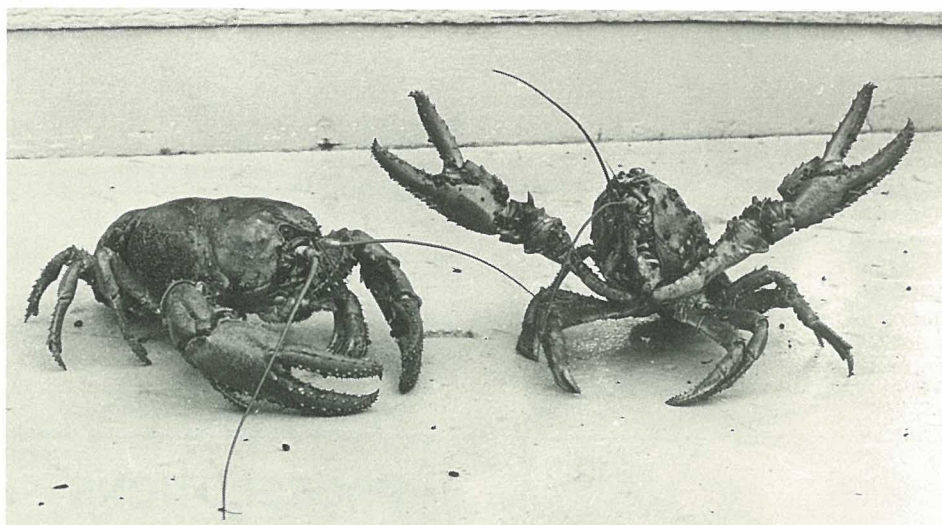
Introduction

Australia is fortunate to have a diverse freshwater crayfish fauna. All freshwater crayfish in the southern hemisphere belong to the family Parastacidae. Of these, by far the largest number of species are found over a large area of the Australian continent, including some of the drier parts, but in general the wetter areas support the greatest diversity of species. Tasmania's freshwater crayfish fauna is rich, ranging from species which grow to a very large size and live in permanent water to much smaller ones which spend most, if not all, of their lives in burrows in the soil.

The Tasmanian crayfish fauna is represented by four genera, *Astacopsis*, *Parastacoides*, *Geocharax* and *Engaeus*. The former two are found only in Tasmania, whilst the latter two are also commonly found in the south-eastern part of the Australian mainland.

The aims of this article are to give an outline of the current state of knowledge of the Tasmanian freshwater crayfish, where they can be found, in what sort of habitats, their possible aquaculture potential and their known diseases and pests. The sources for this article come from publications by various authors, from theses held at the University of Tasmania or from unpublished observations of the author. A selected bibliography of these references, including follow-up reading material, is given.

A detailed key to the identification of Tasmanian freshwater crayfish is available from the author.



Astacopsis

The freshwater crayfishes and their distributions

Astacopsis

At the present time there are two species in this genus, namely *A. gouldi* and *A. franklinii*. They can be distinguished by the presence (*A. gouldi*) or absence (*A. franklinii*) of a small ridge on the upper

surface of the rostrum (the projection between the eyes).

A. gouldi can be found in the rivers and water bodies on the north coast of Tasmania, from Arthur River in the west to Ringarooma River in the east. It can tolerate both fast and slow flowing waters, clear and muddy or discoloured waters, even brackish water, and occurs at water temperatures of 3° to 21° C. It appears, however, to prefer cool, deepish, log-filled pools in undisturbed rivers or streams where the riverine vegetation has been left intact. Its diet consists predominantly of semi-decayed wood; the taking of animal flesh used as a bait indicates that the species is opportunistic in its feeding habits.

It has achieved much notoriety in Australia, and overseas, often being quoted as the largest freshwater crayfish in the world. Some authorities even suggest that it may be the largest freshwater invertebrate alive today. These claims are based on some very large crayfish collected around the turn of the century which were said to be up to 76 cm in total length and 4.5 kg in weight. Most caught nowadays, whilst still being large, are much more modest in size, although specimens of around 40 cm in length and 2 kg in weight are still being found.

A. gouldi is a popular species for fishermen. The Inland Fisheries Commission, being the statutory authority responsible for the freshwater crayfishes in Tasmania, regulates the size, number and sex of animals which can be taken, and where and when they can be fished.

Recently, local fishermen and some scientists have claimed the larger animals are less plentiful than they were in the past. It has been suggested that the constant pressure from fishermen, combined with forestry and agricultural activity which not only alters the riverine habitats but also increases the accessibility to remote or isolated populations, have contributed to a decline in the catchable (legally sized) proportion of this species. These claims have led to a listing of the species as 'vulnerable' by the International Union of the Conservation of Nature (IUCN, 1983). Unfortunately, the lack of detailed information to substantiate such claims has meant that the relevant authorities have been unable to act upon the listing. Attempts to gain this information are currently under way at the University of Tasmania.

A. gouldi breeds in autumn and apparently eggs are carried throughout winter; they undergo larval development in spring and newly hatched young are found attached to their mother during late spring and summer. Females with a carapace length of 12

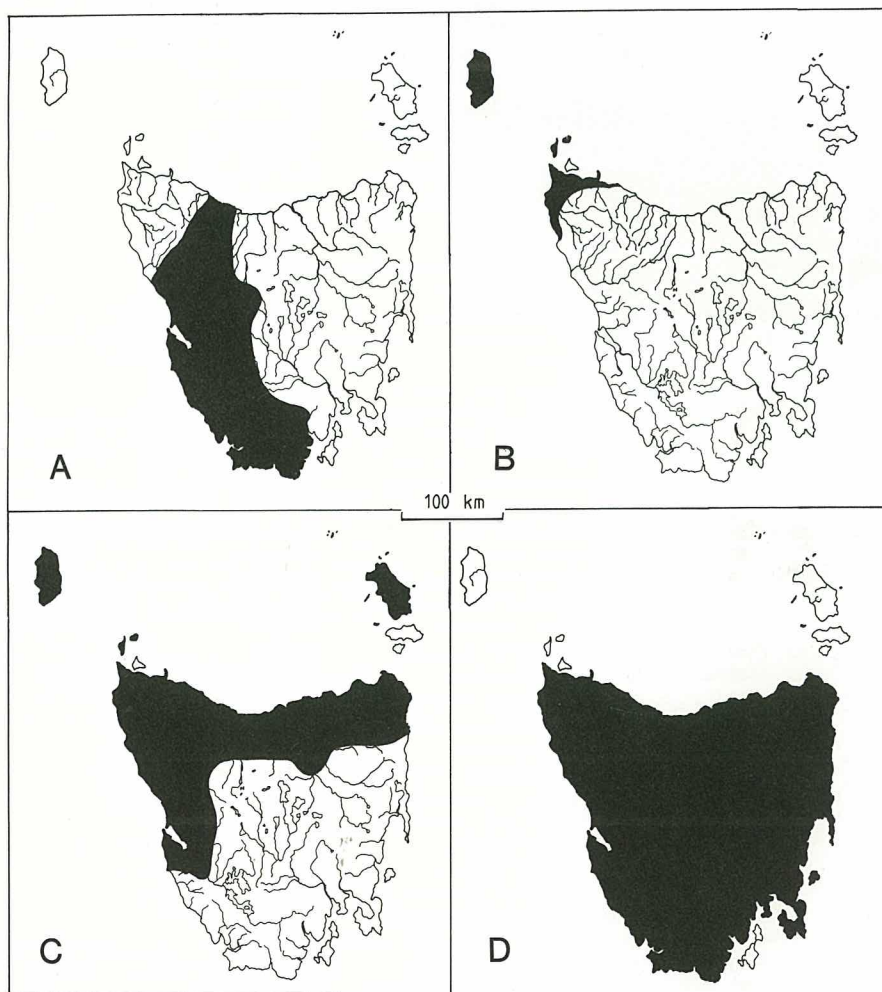


Figure Captions

Figure 1: Distributions of the four genera of freshwater crayfish found in Tasmania, where A = *Parastacoides*, B = *Geocharax*, C = *Engaeus*, and D = *Astacopsis*.

cm or more are known to carry eggs, larvae or young, although it is not known whether individuals smaller than this are reproductively mature. More information on the breeding and life histories of crayfish in the genera *Astacopsis* and *Parastacoides* is currently being gathered by Mr. Premek Hamr of the Zoology Department, University of Tasmania.

The smaller, more widespread species, *A. franklinii* can be found throughout the remainder of Tasmania, in streams, rivers and lakes of the east, south and west of Tasmania and lakes of the Central Plateau where they show distinctive characteristics and may be shown in the future to belong to a separate species. There appears to be a discrete boundary between the distributions of *A. gouldi* and *A. franklinii*, where no overlap occurs and so far no sites have been found where both species occur.

A. franklinii is extremely variable in its size; populations on the east coast contain specimens which reach a maximum size of 6-7 cm carapace length, whilst those found in the western river systems (Franklin, Gordon, Giblin etc.) approach a maximum size of 10-12 cm carapace length. The reasons for this size difference are not known. On the west coast the habitat occupied by *A. franklinii* is very similar to that of *A. gouldi* as described above; east coast populations on the other hand appear to be more reliant on burrows, probably because of the less reliable supply of permanent surface waters.

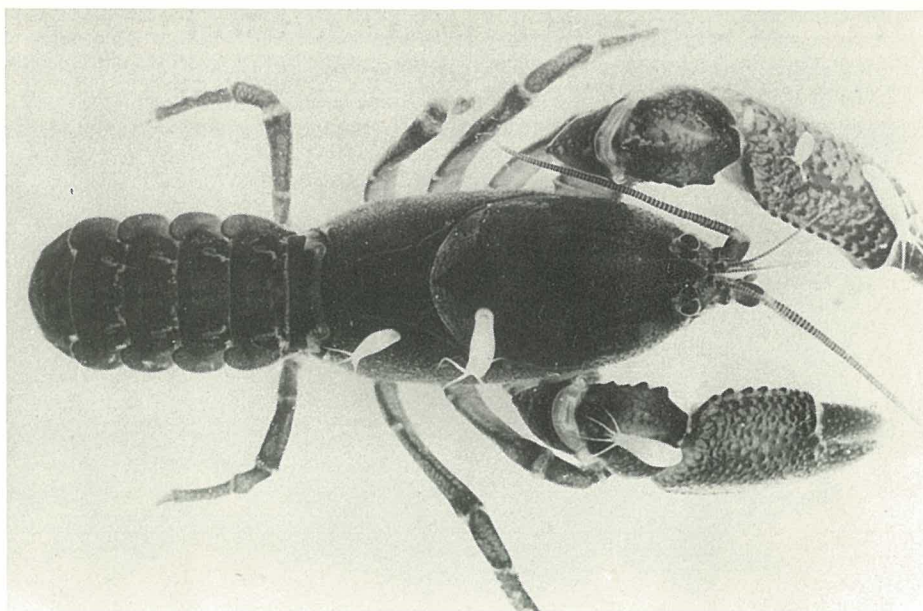
A. franklinii is believed to follow the same seasonal pattern of breeding as *A. gouldi*; for instance, large females found in early February (1987) in the Giblin River carried recently hatched juveniles.

Parastacoides

This genus is represented by one species with three subspecies. However, recent work by Dr. Alastair Richardson of the Zoology Department, University of Tasmania has suggested that this underestimates the number of species in Tasmania, and that there may in fact be six, or even more.

Parastacoides is abundant and widely distributed in western and southern Tasmania where it can be found in a variety of habitats, from creeks in rainforest and wet eucalypt forest, swamps in heathland and buttongrass plains, along the banks of larger rivers, in or along the shores of lakes and some alpine tarns and in other alpine conditions to an altitude of over 1 000 m.

All members of this genus are small (less than 15 cm in total length), and most are habitual burrowers with the possible exception of highland lake dwellers (which appear to exist only if native or introduced fishes and freshwater crayfish of the genus



Parastacoides

Astacopsis are absent from the lake). Crayfish in this genus are occasionally found in the stomachs of Lake Pedder trout.

Breeding takes place in autumn, eggs are carried over winter, after which they undergo larval development in spring and hatch in late spring or summer.

Geocharax

Little is known of this group of crayfish. The number of species is not clear; Tasmanian members can be tentatively referred to as *G. gracilis*. They can be found in north-western Tasmania from Rocky Cape around to Temma, from islands in the Hunter Group and from King Island and they commonly occur in mostly lowland coastal areas, often associated with freshwater lagoons and blackwood or tea-tree swamps. The genus occupies a more extensive range in western Victoria and into south-eastern South Australia.

G. gracilis reaches a maximum size of approximately 12 cm in total length, but adult individuals are more usually between 6 and 10 cm in total length. They appear to spend the majority of their lives in burrows. These are usually simple in structure, descending to the lowest level of the water-table (which may be up to 2 m in depth) and they frequently occur in areas which become inundated following the heavier rains of late winter and early spring. During this period they can be found on the

surface, out of their burrows, amongst aquatic plants or other emergent vegetation. It is likely that they breed during or after this period and incubate their eggs and larvae during summer.

Engaeus

Members of this genus are predominantly burrowing species, often termed 'terrestrial' or 'land' crayfish or 'land crabs' (but of course they are not at all a crab), and are widespread in northern and western Tasmania, from the Gordon River in the west to St Helens in the east. Prior to 1978, four species were known, however, a recent revision of the genus by the author found that it was much more diverse than previously thought and that at least 10 more species (9 of which are undescribed) occur in Tasmania, making a total of 14 species.

Species belonging to this genus occupy a bewildering variety of habitats, including almost all types of swamp imaginable, streams or their headwaters, or banks of rivers, wet eucalypt forest or dry eucalypt forest or in rainforest. They can dig their burrows by the side of permanent water courses, in areas which may or may not be prone to seasonal inundation where the burrows descend to the lowest level of the water-table, and on hillsides usually in moister rainforest or wet eucalypt where the soils are clay and where they construct elaborate burrow systems which trap surface runoff. Species constructing the latter burrows are perhaps the most terrestrial of all freshwater crayfish; they have very small tails, often bristly, and have antennae which are markedly reduced in size. In addition the burrows have one or more chambers which, depending on the time of year, may have a large number of juveniles in them. In any one burrow system therefore, one can find three age classes, namely the adults, the eggs or larvae on the female (if carrying them) and the juveniles from the previous brood.

One characteristic of the burrows of most species of *Engaeus* is that they have 'chimneys' of pelleted soil at their openings. Species of *Parastacoides* may also (but more usually may not) have such chimneys. Therefore, if such chimneys are found, it is more likely to belong to a burrow built by species of *Engaeus* than *Parastacoides*.

All species of *Engaeus* are small; they attain at most a maximum of 12 cm in total length and the proportionate size of their tails is very small; as such they are not considered to be suitable for aquacultural purposes.

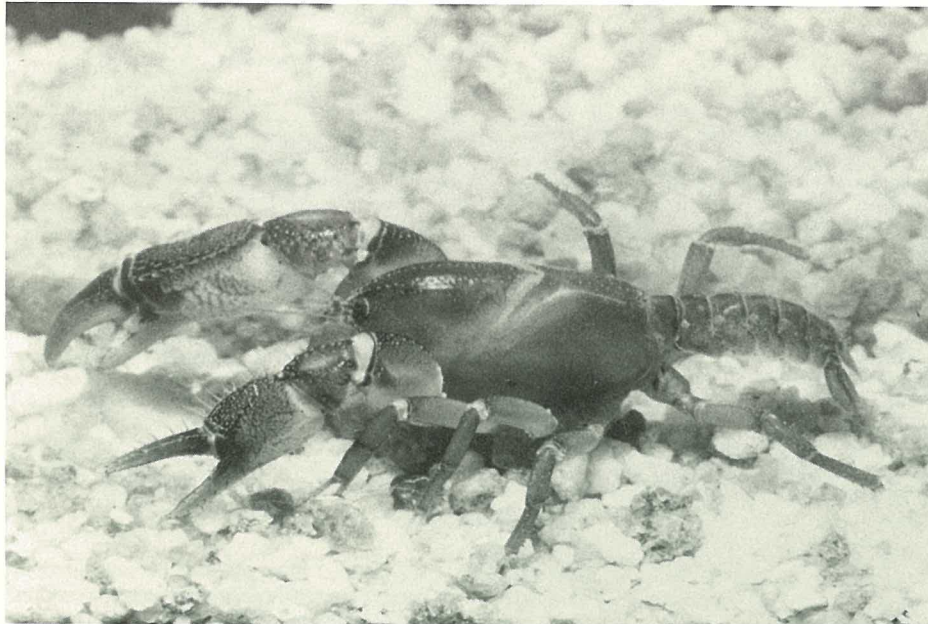
Most species follow the same pattern of breeding (simplified here), where a male and a female can be found together in the same burrow system in



Geocharax

mid-late spring when mating occurs; eggs and larvae are incubated during late spring and early summer and juveniles hatch in mid - late summer. Juveniles may be released from the burrow any time

when water levels allow it. A few species also show the potential to breed in autumn and thus conform to the standard life history pattern of the genera *Astacopsis* and *Parastacoides*.



Engaeus

Pests, diseases and mainland crayfish species.

The importation and the exportation of all freshwater crayfish into, and out of, Tasmania is prohibited. A consequence of this regulation is that the mainland or overseas species which have shown some aquaculture potential (such as marron and yabbies) cannot be imported into Tasmania. The importation ban, however, is in place for a very good reason, namely to safeguard the island's native species since introduced species might out-compete them, or worse, they might carry and introduce to Tasmania pests and diseases against which the native species have no natural immunity. All Australian freshwater crayfish which have been tested are highly susceptible to the crayfish plague fungus *Aphanomyces astaci* which is indigenous to the American continent. This fungal disease has decimated populations of European crayfish and, if introduced, has the potential to have catastrophic effects on the populations of Tasmanian and Australian freshwater crayfish.

Another disease with the potential to cause mortality in freshwater crayfish is caused by the microsporidian protozoan *Thelohania* sp.; these have been found in populations of *Cherax destructor* and the infection rates for this species appear to be density dependent.

Freshwater crayfish carry a wide variety of parasites which may or may not affect the wellbeing of the host. These include other protozoans, rotifers, nematodes (round worms), mites and temnocephalans (flat worms). Of these, the latter are the most conspicuous since they often congregate in large numbers on the outside of the crayfish. They can be identified by the presence of short tentacles (seen waving about when the crayfish is submerged) and can vary in size from being just visible to the naked eye, to being 5 mm in length. Temnocephalans appear to be harmless to freshwater crayfish.

Aquaculture potential

Several species of freshwater crayfish found on the mainland of Australia have been examined for their aquaculture potential, mainly the yabby *Cherax destructor* and the marron *C. tenuimanus*, and these investigations have met with a small degree of success.

In Tasmania only one species, *Astacopsis gouldi*, has been examined with a view to farming. The results of the study showed that, under the condi-

tions chosen, the growth rate was extremely slow compared with other freshwater crayfish (see article by Dr. N. Forteach). Meat yield is low because the tail is proportionately small compared with other species; a lot of the meat comes from the large claws. It appears, therefore, that this species has little farming potential and the colder water temperatures in Tasmania, to which the species is adapted, do not appear to be conducive to the fast growth necessary for successful farming. In addition the current status of "vulnerable" makes those authorities responsible for the species (Inland Fisheries Commission) reluctant to grant permits for the collection of brood stock from wild populations.

However, before the species is written-off as an unviable species for farming, every attempt should be made to test its growth rates under a variety of conditions. These tests should also address the potential problem of aggression between individuals, since the species is not known to aggregate in large numbers in the wild. In addition, the breeding biology should be carefully examined with a view to overcoming the possible shortfall of stock.

Astacopsis franklinii can also grow to a large size, particularly in western Tasmania and thus any examination into the aquaculture potential of *A. gouldi* might also be applied to this species.

Of the remaining species in Tasmania, perhaps only those belonging to the genus *Geocharax* can be considered as potentially suitable for harvesting. These species can still be collected in relatively large numbers in the north west during the spring months when they emerge from their burrows. The estimated proportionate meat yield per individual is relatively high and if they were to be found in high densities, their small size would make them possible for a bait market.

Finally, current regulations prohibit the taking of freshwater crayfish for pets unless permission is obtained from the Inland Fisheries Commission and indeed such activity is strongly discouraged by the authority. These regulations help to prevent the introductions or the spread of pests and diseases in Tasmanian inland waters. Steps must be taken to ensure that any aquaculture, bait or pet industries do not result in the importation or exportation of live crayfish, nor result in the unauthorised release of crayfish into Tasmanian inland waters. At the most recent meeting of the International Association of Astacology (freshwater crayfish) in Switzerland this year, a resolution was undertaken by all members to convey to world leaders, in the strongest possible

terms, the dangers associated with the importation and exportation of freshwater crayfish.

The dangers of introducing exotic diseases with the potential to devastate populations of Tasmania's interesting and diverse freshwater crayfish fauna are now recognised.

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IN BRIEF

Brook Trout Stocking

On 23 May 1987, 115 surplus two-year-old brook trout from Salmon Ponds (average weight 500g) were released in Lake Dulverton near Oatlands. In November 1987, 20 000 advanced brook trout fry were released in the upper Anthony-Henty system on the West Coast; this was a follow-up to the trial stocking in December 1986. On 2 February 1988 a further 1 500, 26 gram, brook trout were released in Clarence Lagoon.

Trout-Fish Tasmania

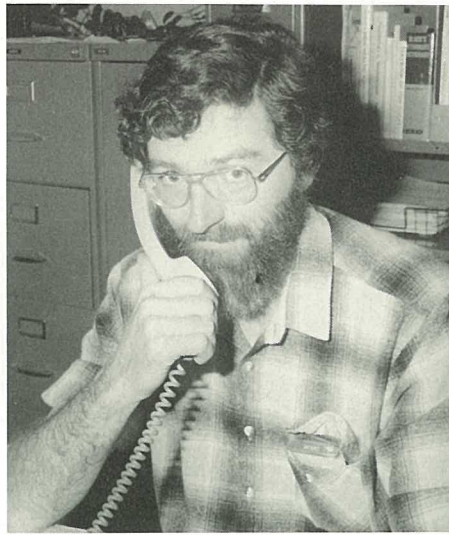
The Commission's 'Trout-Fish Tasmania' video is now available for sale. Copies of the entertaining 35-minute video can be obtained from the Tasmanian Film Corporation, 1 Bowen Road, Moonah at \$35 per copy. Cloth badges displaying the 'Trout-Fish Tasmania' logo are available from State angling associations and from the Commission at \$6 per badge. 'Trout-Fish Tasmania' bumper stickers are available from the Commission and most licence selling agents, free of charge.

ANOTHER FRUSTRATED ANGLER

In October last year Kevin Lange was appointed to the re-classified Scientific Officer position of Hatchery Manager at Salmon Ponds. The previous manager, Ian Cameron, left Tasmania to join a new commercial trout and salmon farming company in Western Australia, after ten years of dedicated service with the Commission.

Kevin Lange was previously employed as a Veterinary Officer with the Tasmanian Department of Agriculture after completing a Bachelor of Veterinary Science degree at the University of Queensland.

With the Department of Agriculture, Kevin Lange played a prominent role in the supervision of Atlantic salmon health during quarantine, and also in assessing general trout and salmon health in both marine and freshwater trout and salmon farms. In his previous capacity he also made regular visits to Salmon Ponds to advise on fish health matters.



Kevin Lange

The re-classified Salmon Ponds job will involve overall management and maintenance of the Salmon Ponds, the design and implementation of stocking programs for recreational fishing, the design and supervision of research programs for fish husbandry, and responsibility for selective breeding and genetic improvement in fish.

He will also assess and advise the Commission on applications for fish farm licences, and the associated environmental impact statements.

Other duties will involve inspection of fish farms, and reports on their management, and the provision of advice to existing and prospective salmonid farmers.

Kevin Lange will also be required to publish popular and scientific papers on research findings, and attend seminars, presenting Commission policy and research.

Kevin Lange admits to being one of those frustrated anglers who occasionally dabbles a fly line for trout, but rarely catches any. Perhaps he will do better at Salmon Ponds!

PROSECUTIONS

The December Special issue of the Inland Fisheries Commission Newsletter left a backlog of successful prosecutions which normally appear on the back of each issue. For this reason it has been necessary to summarise the prosecutions which have occurred since the last list was published.

Offender	Offence Summary	Total Fine Plus Costs (\$)		
Roger LAMBERT, Smithton	Whitebait	267-20	Anthony FOSTER, Devonport	Whitebait 126-10
Simon DUDMAN, Campbell Town	Disturb spawning fish	40-00	Rodger LAMBERT, Smithton	Whitebait 392-20
Keith DUDMAN, Campbell Town	Disturb spawning fish	40-00	Wayne BARKER, Rocherlea	Unlicensed/More than 1 rod 211-10
Rodney HOUSE, Rocky Cape	Whitebait	91-10	Neville BARKER, Rocherlea	Unlicensed/More than 1 rod 191-10
Mervyn JAFFRAY, Latrobe	Whitebait	131-10	Allan CHORLEY, Ravenswood	Unlicensed 171-10
Ricky FRENCH, Wynyard	Unlicensed/Assembled rod	121-10	Russell CURTIS, Campbell Town	Troll from motor boat 25-00
Neville DEVERELL, Wynyard	Unlicensed/Assembled rod	141-10	Terence SERVICE, Victoria	Unlicensed 142-10
Daryle PADMAN, Ulverstone	Whitebait	111-10	Peter RIGBY, St Leonards	Unlicensed/More than 1 rod 140-10
Robbie CLARK, New Norfolk	Unlicensed	41-10	Michael COLEMAN, Deloraine	More than 1 rod 61-10
Percy MONSEN, Stanley	Whitebait	161-10	Stephen BREWER, Launceston	Unlicensed 121-10
Stanley CHARLES, Stanley	Whitebait	161-10	Robert BROWNING, New Norfolk	More than 1 rod 41-10
Peter LAMBERT, Smithton	Whitebait	241-10	Desmond HENNESSY, Ulverstone	More than 1 rod 71-10
Michael FRENCH, Burnie	More than 1 rod	41-10	Wietse POST, Ravenswood	Unlicensed 121-10
Kevin BARKER, Ravenswood	More than 1 rod	61-10	Mervyn WILSON, Burnie	Unattended rod 41-10
Owen CAMERON, Launceston	More than 1 rod	61-10	George KISMANIS, Launceston	More than 1 rod 61-10
Peter WEST, Moonah	More than 1 rod/Natural bait	121-10	Sidney REID, George Town	More than 1 rod 71-10
Ron TREPKOWSKI, West Moonah	More than 1 rod/Unattended rod	101-10	Alan JUDD, Launceston	Unattended rod 41-10
Karl SIEMINSKI, West Moonah	More than 1 rod/Unattended rod	101-10	Brian YOUNG, Deloraine	More than 1 rod 61-10
Reginald PORTER, Ulverstone	More than 1 rod	51-10	Kenneth HENDERSON, Savage River	Disturb spawning fish 102-20
Wayne STEVENS, Devonport	More than 1 rod/Unattended rod	41-10	Danny TUBB, Launceston	Disturb spawning fish 501-10
Robert EASTLEY, Deloraine	Other than rod	111-10	Ross BRAMICH, Devonport	Disturb spawning fish 211-10
Bevan MCCULLAGH, Sassafra	More than 1 rod/Unattended rod	71-10	Mark SICE, Launceston	Disturb spawning fish 91-10
John GRACE, Launceston	Natural bait	61-10	Peter MCLENNAN, Victoria	Unlicensed 171-10
Leonard BAILEY, Launceston	More than 1 rod	61-10	Gordon CLARK, East Devonport	Disturb spawning fish 262-20
Geoffrey GRACE, Launceston	Natural bait	61-10	Wayne CLARK, East Devonport	Disturb spawning fish 262-20
Michael PEARTON, Kings Meadows	Unlicensed	121-10	Leon BOUTCHER, Sheffield	Disturb spawning fish 115-00
Wayne BURT, Launceston	More than 1 rod	61-10	Peter LAPHORNE, Devonport	Disturb spawning fish 157-20
Gavin BROOKS, Ravenswood	Unattended rod	61-10	Patrick GALLAGHER, Devonport	Disturb spawning fish 157-20
Dean BURN, Campbell Town	Disturb spawning fish/Other than rod	140-20	Francis SHEEHAN, Ulverstone	Whitebait 106-10
Ronald WELLS, Westerway	Unlicensed	71-10	Jeffrey WEEDING, Trevallyn	Disturb spawning fish 141-10
Rodger LINCOLN, Westerway	Unlicensed	71-10	Wayne COLE, Devonport	Natural bait 61-10
Douglas JONES, Hamilton	Unlicensed	71-10	Richard BAINBRIDGE, Queenstown	Natural bait 50-00
Garry JONES, Ouse	Unlicensed	71-10	Mervin BARTLETT, Launceston	More than 1 rod 71-10
Terry SYMONS, Gawler	More than 1 rod	71-10	Ray FARRELL, Scottsdale	Whitebait 91-10
Kerry LOCKE, Magra	More than 1 rod	71-10	Michael SIMMONS, Scottsdale	Whitebait 91-10
Andrew SCOTT, Tunnack	Unlicensed/More than 1 rod	141-10	Trevor ALLEN, Newstead	Disturb spawning fish 161-10
Wally DENKO, Moonah	More than 1 rod	61-10	Brett WOODBERRY, Sheffield	Disturb spawning fish 167-20
William GRACE, Launceston	Lend licence	71-10	Wilfred RICKETTS, Launceston	More than 1 rod 81-10
Dallas JONES, Prospect	Unlicensed	171-10	Brian BEARD, Bothwell	More than 1 rod 141-10
Geoffrey JONES, Bothwell	Natural bait/Unlicensed/Obstruction	237-20	Steven HOWARD, Gravelly Beach	Disturb spawning fish 71-10
Russell NORRIS, Ulverstone	Unlicensed	146-10	John MEDCRAFT, Ulverstone	Disturb spawning fish 361-10
Craig WHEELER, Derby	More than 1 rod	61-10	Graham MEDCRAFT, Ulverstone	Disturb spawning fish 341-10
John EDWARDS, Smithton	Whitebait	41-10	Leslie KLINIG, Deloraine	Disturb spawning fish 170-10
Lawrence BRYAN, Railton	Unlicensed	146-10	Peter MURPHY, Deloraine	Disturb spawning fish 170-10
Julien BROADBY, Sandy Bay	Unlicensed	81-10	Rolf UFFLEMANN, Newnham	Disturb spawning fish 141-10
Shirley HARDWICK, Railton	Unlicensed	146-10	Terence WILLIAMS, St Leonards	Disturb spawning fish 199-10
Melissa COOK, Lindisfarne	Unlicensed	121-10	William TRIFFITT, Risdon Vale	Unlicensed 121-10
Gregory CRABTREE, Victoria	Natural bait	101-10	Wayne COLLINS, Launceston	Disturb spawning fish 161-10
Ian JACOBS, Sandy Bay	Unlicensed/Unattended rod	146-10	David HUTCHINGS, Queenstown	Natural bait 51-10
Russell PALMER, Tunnack	Unlicensed/Natural bait	151-10	Peter POMARE, Smithton	Whitebait 223-20
Craig DAVEY, Savage River	Unlicensed/More than 1 rod	196-10	Glen OAKLEY, Campbell Town	Unlicensed 362-20
Rodney BLAIR, Campbell Town	Unlicensed/More than 1 rod	161-10	David APPLEBY, Devonport	Unlicensed 121-10
			Reginald OLIVER, Shearwater	Whitebait 121-10