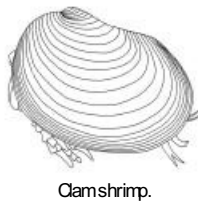




Spinicaudata (conchostracans, clam shrimps)



Clam shrimp.



A conchostracan from the Northern Territory (7 mm in length). Photo: V. Kessner.

Classification

Conchostraca

Phylum Arthropoda

Subphylum Crustacea

Class Branchiopoda

Subclass Phyllopoda

Superorder Diplostraca

Order There are three orders - Cyclestherida, Laevicaudata and Spinicaudata, the last containing the majority of taxa.

Biology and ecology

Common in temporary pools in arid areas.

Notes

These bivalved branchiopodan crustaceans were classified in a single order (Conchostraca) but are now split into three separate orders of which the Spinicaudata comprises the great majority of the clam shrimps. Their valves are held together by a muscle, they have compound eyes and, many 'legs' and antennae.

For more information on these bivalve crustaceans see:

<https://keys.lucidcentral.org/keys/v3/TFI/start%20key/key/crustacea%20key/Media/HTML/Conchostraca.html>

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