Additional Nereidids (Polychaeta) from Eastern Australia, together with a Redescription of Namanereis quadraticeps (Gay) and the Synonymising of Ceratonereis pseudoerythraeensis Hutchings & Turvey with C. aequisetis (Augener)

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ABSTRACT. Ceratonereis pseudoerythraeensis Hutchings & Turvey, 1982, an extremely common estuarine nereidid throughout southern and eastern Australia, is synonymised with Ceratonereis aequisetis (Augener, 1913), previously only known from the Swan River, Western Australia. A new record of C. amphidonta Hutchings & Turvey, 1982, from South Australia is given from Victoria. Namalycastis cf. abiuma (Müller, 1871) is described. Material from the type locality of Namanereis quadraticeps (Gay, 1849) is described and compared to N. littoralis Hutchings & Turvey, 1982. The only known record of Pseudonereis masalacensis (Grube, 1878) from Australia is referred to Pseudonereis anomala Gravier, 1901.

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KEYWORDS: taxonomy, Australian polychaetes, estuarine nereidids, redescription, type-species.

In 1982, Hutchings & Turvey published a comprehensive study of the nereidids predominantly of South Australia, in which they described a new species of Ceratonereis, C. pseudoerythraeensis, belonging to a group characterised by giant, simple setae. Following publication of this paper, Dr Hartmann-Schröder drew the senior author's attention to the presence of such setae in Ceratonereis aequisetis (Augener) although Augener (1913) had made no mention of this type of simple setae in the description of the species. Examination of Augener's type confirmed that C. pseudoerythraeensis, an extremely common and widely distributed species. was identical with C. aequisetis. An additional new record of Ceratonereis amphidonta Hutchings & Turvey, 1982, from Westernport Victoria is given; the species was previously only known by a single specimen from South Australia. Some material of Namanereis quadraticeps (Gay) from the type locality became available to us and we have described and designated a neotype of N. quadraticeps, the type-species of the genus. A full description of Namalycastis cf. abiuma (Müller) from southern Queensland is given. Namalycastis abiuma (Müller) is described together with some comments on the genus. The single record of Pseudonereis masalacensis (Grube, 1878) from Australia was found to be misidentified and the material has been reidentified as Pseudonereis anomala Gravier, 1901.

The following abbreviations have been used in the text, Allan Hancock Foundation, Los Angeles (AHF), Australian Museum, Sydney (AM), Zoologisches Institut und Zoologisches Museum der Universität, Hamburg (HZM), Queensland Museum, Brisbane (QM), Universytet Wroclawski Muzeum Przyrodnicze, Warsaw (WM), Museum of Victoria, Melbourne (MV).