Acrocalanus gracilis
Giesbrecht, 1888

Synonyms
None

Size
Female: 1.2-1.32 mm

Genus notes
• A1 long
• Rostrum with long, slender filaments
• Pedigerous somites 4 & 5 incompletely separated
• Basis 2 of P1 with inner edge seta
• Obvious small spines on outer edge of exopodite segments of P2-4
• Female P5 is rudimentary
• Male P5 only present on left
• Females with short urosome
• Males of different species difficult to tell apart

Female
• Cephalosome evenly rounded in lateral view
• A1 exceeds end of caudal rami by 3-4 segments
• Line between cephalosome and first pedigerous somite is rarely visible
• Distal toothed outer border of exp3 P4 is 80% of length of proximal part

Distribution
• Epipelagic, sometimes deeper
• Coastal and oceanic
• Distribution in Australia includes Great Barrier Reef, Moreton Bay, North West Cape and New South Wales
• World distribution: recorded from tropical regions of all oceans

Ecology
• Can be transported into temperate regions via warm water currents
• More abundant offshore on the Great Barrier Reef
• Herbivorous filter feeder

Source
Boltovskoy (1999)
Bradford-Grieve (1994)
Conway (2003)
Dakin and Colefax (1940)
McKinnon & Thorrold (1993)
Razouls et al (2010)

Compiled: C. H. Davies & A. S. Slotwinski 2012
Verified: K. M. Swadling 2013
Acrocalanus gracilis
Giesbrecht, 1888

**Phylum**  Arthropoda  
**Order**  Calanoida  
**Family**  Paracalanidae

**Size**  
Male: 0.88-1.00 mm

**Male**  
- A1 reaches just beyond caudal rami  
- No hump on cephalosome  
- P5 left 5 segmented and reaches to end of urosome somite 2  
- P5 right is vestigial or absent

Sewell (1929); Mori (1937); Chen & Zhang (1965)

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