

The side-plates of the peræon varying greatly in size, but those of the sixth and seventh segments never very large.

*Pleopods* generally having the inner angle of the peduncle armed with two or more small coupling spines, and the first joint of the inner ramus furnished with some apically-cleft spine-like setæ.

Family ORCHESTIDÆ, Leach, 1814.

The following is the definition of the family by Boeck, 1872 :—

“ *Upper Lip* strong, rounded at the apex.

“ *Mandibles* very strong, curved, much dentate at the apex, carrying a row of plumose spines; inner appendage strongly dentate; molar tubercle very prominent; palp wanting.

“ *First Maxillæ* armed with strong pectinate teeth; inner plate elongate, narrow, with two plumose setæ at the apex; palp small or wanting.

“ *Second Maxillæ* with broad plates.

“ *Maxillipeds* with the outer plate small, broad, ovate, having on the margin slender spines or setæ; the inner plate elongate, broad, apically truncate, armed with three strong teeth; palp strong and broad, the last joint sometimes wanting.

“ *Body* compressed; back rounded; side plates well developed.

“ *Upper Antennæ* more or less shorter than the lower, without accessory flagellum.

“ *Lower Antennæ* with the two anterior joints very short but pretty broad.

“ *Uropods* short and strong; the first and second biramous, the last pair one-branched.

“ *Telson* short and thick.”

Genus *Orchestia*, Leach, 1813.

Leach, in 1813, in the first division of his family Gammarini, defines *Talitrus* as having “Anterior pair of feet larger than the second pair; no hands,” and *Orchestia* as having “Two anterior pair furnished with a movable thumb, which is capable of being bent on the edge of the hand; second pair largest, having a compressed hand.” For further definitions, see Notes on Leach, 1815 (p. 90), Friedrich Müller, 1848 (p. 226), J. F. Brandt, 1851 (p. 244), Dana, 1852 (p. 257). Boeck’s definition, 1872, includes “*Maxillæ 1mi paris palpo destitutæ*,” but some species of *Orchestia*, if not all, have a rudimentary palp on the first maxillæ; it also includes “*pedes maxillares palpis per-brevibus latis; articulo palpi 2do sursum dilatato, 4to absenti*,” in which statement it would probably be more accurate to substitute *rudimentari* or *tuberculiformi* in the place of the word *absenti*.