

# Text-format input files

The Tasmania meiofauna directory also contains three different text format versions of the copepod samples, `Tasmania copepods tab-sep.txt`, `Tasmania copepods comma-sep.csv` and `Tasmania copepods 3-column.txt`, in addition to a fourth text version of the same data, `Tasmania copepods v4.pm1`, which is in the original DOS PRIMER v4 format. The first two are rectangular variables  $\times$  samples (but could be samples  $\times$  variables) arrays, and differing really only in what is used as a separator (delimiter) between the data entries: \*.csv files are comma-separated and \*.txt are typically tab-separated (e.g. outputting to \*.txt format gives tab delimiters). However, input from \*.txt format is more general: it can also cater for comma-separated or space-separated entries or the use of any other specified delimiter. In all cases, rows are separated by (hard) carriage returns but for columns there is no limit on the length of each line, and these will typically be wrapped (with soft carriage returns) when displayed with a text editor or word processor, as seen below. The third file, `Tasmania copepods 3-column.txt`, is an example of 3-column format, in which each line of the text file has only three columns of data separated by tabs (other delimiters, such as commas, are also allowed). The format must again be followed exactly: as the second line of header information shows, Column 1 is the sample label, column 2 the variable label, and column 3 the numeric data entry. The advantage of this format is that only non-zero entries need be listed – when PRIMER converts this to rectangular format the blank cells will be automatically filled with zeros (and again without fixed size limits). Importantly, this ‘flat-form’ structure is the *record format* which many relational databases use to hold observed occurrences or counts of a specific species at a specified location (set the third column to 1 throughout, if these are records only of presence), and the same record format is often also used for abiotic or other measurement variables. All such databases (e.g. Access) will be able to output comma/tab separated text format files of the type shown below right.

Tasmania copepods tab-sep text.txt - Micro...

File Home Insert Page Layout References Mailings

Courier New 10.5

B I U Aa X x

Font

Paragraph

Tasmanian copepods

B1DR1 B1DR2 B2DR1 B2DR2 B3DR1 B3DR2 B4DR1 B4DR2

Ameira sp 43 63 4 5 7 6

91 57 10 60 142 96 6

Apodopsyllus sp 0 0 0 0 0 0

0 0 0 0 1 3 2

Ectinosoma sp 0 0 0 0 0 0

2 0 0 1 4 6 7

Ectinosomatidae sp 1 15 14 4

7 7 4 5 5 0 2

Haloshizopera sp 0 0 0 0 0 0

0 0 0 0 0 0 0

Leptastacus sp A 30 97 27 35 3

117 15 88 3 0 6 2

Leptastacus sp B 1 11 3 0 0

Tasmania copepods comma-sep.csv - Notepad

File Edit Format View Help

Tasmanian copepods

B1DR1,B1DR2,B2DR1,B2DR2,B3DR1,B3DR2,B4DR1,B4DR2

Ameira sp,43,63,4,5,7,6,69,5,124,105,91,57,2

Apodopsyllus sp,0,0,0,0,0,0,4,1,0,0,0,0,0,1

Ectinosoma sp,0,0,0,0,0,0,1,0,0,2,0,0,1,4,6

Ectinosomatidae sp,1,15,14,4,2,3,1,1,7,4,1

Haloshizopera sp,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,2,0,0,0,0,4

Leptastacus sp A,30,97,27,35,3,1,29,47,151,117

Leptastacus sp B,1,11,3,0,0,0,0,1,0,0,2,5,0,0

Leptastacus sp C,0,0,0,0,10,180,3,1,0,0,0,0,0

Mictyricola typica,0,0,8,3,0,1,3,5,0,0,0,0,1,0

Parevansula sp,0,0,2,0,0,0,0,0,0,1,0,1,0,0,0

Quinquelaophonte sp,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,2,3,0,0,0

Rhizothrix sp,1,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,6,6,0,0,0,0,0

Undetermined A,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,1,0,0,0,0,0,0

Undetermined B,1,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0

Undetermined C,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,1,0,0,0

Undetermined D,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,1

Undetermined E,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,1

Blk,B1,B1,B2,B2,B3,B3,B4,B4,B1,B1,B2,B2,B3,B3,

Trt,D,D,D,D,D,D,D,U,U,U,U,U,U,U,U,U

Tasmania copepods 3-column.txt - Micro...

File Home Insert Page Layout References Mailings Review View Acrobat

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B I U Aa X x

Font

Paragraph

Styles

Editing

Tasmanian copepods

Sample Variable Value Blk Trt ID?

B1DR1 Ameira sp 43 B1 D 1

B1DR1 Ectinosomatidae sp 1 B1 D 1

B1DR1 Leptastacus sp A 30 B1 D 1

B1DR1 Leptastacus sp B 1 B1 D 1

B1DR1 Rhizothrix sp 1 B1 D 1

B1DR1 Undetermined B 1 B1 D 0

B1DR2 Ameira sp 63 B1 D 1

B1DR2 Ectinosomatidae sp 15 B1 D 1

B1DR2 Leptastacus sp A 97 B1 D 1

B1DR2 Leptastacus sp B 11 B1 D 1

B2DR1 Ameira sp 4 B2 D 1

B2DR1 Ectinosomatidae sp 14 B2 D 1

B2DR1 Leptastacus sp A 27 B2 D 1

B2DR1 Leptastacus sp B 3 B2 D 1

B2DR1 Mictyricola typica 8 B2 D 1

B2DR1 Parevansula sp 2 B2 D 1

B2DR2 Ameira sp 5 B2 D 1

B2DR2 Ectinosomatidae sp 4 B2 D 1

Tasmania copepods comma-sep

Tasmanian copepods

Abundance

Variables

Samples

B1DR1 B1DR2 B2DR1 B2DR2

Ameira sp 43 63 4 5

Apodopsyllus sp 0 0 0 0

Ectinosoma sp 0 0 0 0

Ectinosomatidae sp 1 15 14 4

Haloshizopera sp 0 0 0 0

Leptastacus sp A 30 97 27 35

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