



**Dr. Thomas Cribb**

Doctor

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Thomas Cribb has spent his entire scientific career studying the biodiversity of parasitic worms. His work began in Brisbane in 1981, under the supervision of Professor John Pearson, where he began study of the taxonomy and life-cycles of trematodes of local freshwater fishes. Following graduation with a PhD in 1986 he took-up a CSIRO postdoctoral Fellowship at the Natural History Museum London where, in particular he started a career-long collaboration with Rod Bray. Returning to Australia, he spent time at CSIRO Wildlife and Ecology with Dave Spratt, back at The University of Queensland, and then at the Queensland Museum with Lester Cannon. He was appointed to the then Department of Parasitology at the University of Queensland in 1992 and has been there ever since. From 1990 he began work on trematodes of marine fishes – the task remains an enormous one. Initial work was on the Great Barrier Reef but later expanded to comparative studies based in New Caledonia, Ningaloo, French Polynesia, Indonesia, Palau, the Maldives, Japan and South Africa. His work started with the main goals of describing the trematode species of the marine fishes (from an ever expanding region), elucidating their life cycles and describing and interpreting biogeographic processes. After nearly 30 years in the field, the goals remain the same.