

A new species of *Typhlocirolana* (Isopoda, Cirolanidae) from the Ullal de la Rambla de Miravet, Spain

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Abstract

A new species of hypogean cirolanid isopod, *Typhlocirolana troglobia* sp. nov. is described, from specimens obtained during speleological explorations of a karstic cave in the Miravet Ravine, Spain. *Typhlocirolana troglobia* sp. nov. can be distinguished from all other species in the genus by the combination of the following characters: lack of sexual dimorphism of pereopod 7, absence of sexual dimorphism in the chaetotaxy of the propodus of pereopod 3, and the excavate and serrate appendix masculina apex.

Key words: Crustacea, Cirolanidae, *Typhlocirolana*, hypogean fauna, Spain

Introduction

The family Cirolanidae is one of the most speciose of isopod families, amongst which are approximately 71 species in 21 genera inhabiting subterranean waters (Botosaneanu *et al.* 1986). The *Typhlocirolana* Racovitza group of genera is geographically widespread, distributed around the Mediterranean basin (*Typhlocirolana*, *Turcolana* Argano & Pesce, 1980; *Marocolana* Boutin, 1993) and in North America (*Cirolanides* Benedict, 1896). Within this group, *Typhlocirolana* is the most speciose genus, with eight described species, one of which is divided into two subspecies: *T. moraguesi moraguesi* Racovitza, 1905; *T. fontis* (Gurney, 1908); *T. buxtoni* Racovitza, 1912; *T. gurneyi* Racovitza, 1912; *T. rifana* Margalef, 1958; *T. leptura* Botosaneanu *et al.*, 1985; *T. moraguesi aureae* Pretus, 1986; *T. margalefi* Pretus, 1986; and *T. haouzensis* Boutin *et al.*, 2002. The true diversity of the genus is, however unknown, as further species in the genus are known but require formal description (Baratti *et al.* 1999; Boutin *et al.* 2002), and the correct generic placement of additional species requires revision (e.g. *Typhlocirolana reichi* Por, 1962; see Botosaneanu