

Pycnogonids (Arthropoda: Pycnogonida) from Taiwan, with description of three new species

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Abstract

Pycnogonid material collected between August 2000 and August 2003 from Taiwanese waters at depths between 100 and 2620 m is described. The thirty-three specimens represent ten species, and include one hitherto undescribed species of each of the genera *Nymphon*, *Colossendeis* and *Pycnogonum*. There are no previously published records of pycnogonids from Taiwan. *Nymphon polyglia* sp. nov. has multiple cement gland pores on the femur and first tibia, and tarsus and propodus subequal in length. *Colossendeis mycterismos* sp. nov. has affinities with *C. pipetta*, but has a tarsus shorter than the propodus. *Pycnogonum cranaobyrsa* sp. nov. has a slender tapering proboscis, no auxiliary claws and pointed mid-dorsal trunk tubercles, with a pustulate integument and a rounded ocular tubercle. The cement-gland openings of *Heterofragilia hirsuta* are described.

Key words: Pycnogonida, Taiwan, Pacific, *Nymphon*, *Ascorhynchus*, *Heterofragilia*, *Colossendeis*

Introduction

During the recent western Pacific oceanographic cruises from the Paris Museum, some material had been collected from Taiwan during 2000 and 2001, including 13 specimens of pycnogonid. Additional material from the National Taiwan Ocean University 'TAIWAN' series of cruises has also been kindly made available for analysis. From waters off eastern Asia, Bamber (1997) has summarized the pycnogonid records from Hong Kong, China and Korea, Nakamura and Child (1991) summarized the history of pycnogonid recording from Japanese waters, and Child (1988) and Stock (1991) reported pycnogonids from the Philippines; however, there are no previous records of pycnogonids from Taiwan in the published literature.

The present paper analyzes material collected between August 2000 and August 2003, from depths between 100 and 2620 m. The thirty-three specimens represent ten species, including one hitherto undescribed species of each of the genera *Nymphon*, *Colossendeis*