

Redescription of *Ilyarachna zachsi* Gurjanova, 1933 (Crustacea: Isopoda: Munnopsidae) from the Sea of Japan, with the synonymisation of *I. starokadomskii* Gurjanova, 1933

OLGA A. GOLOVAN¹ & MARINA V. MALYUTINA²

Institute of Marine Biology, Far Eastern Branch, Russian Academy of Sciences, 17 Palchevsky St, Vladivostok, 690041, Russia.

¹ E-mail: golovan_olga@mail.ru

² E-mail: m_malyutina@mail.ru

Abstract

Ilyarachna zachsi Gurjanova, 1933, from the Sea of Japan, is redescribed and *I. starokadomskii* Gurjanova, 1933 is regarded as a junior subjective synonym of that species. *I. zachsi* is characterized by the cephalon having a transverse row of 6 dorsal spines, anterior margins of pereonites 1–3 with 4–14 dorsal spines and the male pleopods 2 stylet not reaching the distal end of protopod. The species displays significant intraspecific variability in the armament of pereonites 1–3. The smaller specimens with 4 long spines are generally males, these having been previously described as *I. starokadomskii*, while the larger, more spiny specimens are females (the specimen with extreme state of this character was previously described as *I. zachsi*).

Key words: Crustacea; Isopoda; Munnopsidae; *Ilyarachna*; Sea of Japan; taxonomy

Introduction

The genus *Ilyarachna* Sars, 1870 contains 38 species (Kensley *et al.* 2004), three of which are from Russian waters in the Sea of Japan, *I. zachsi* Gurjanova, 1933, *I. starokadomskii* Gurjanova, 1933 and *I. kurilensis* Kussakin & Mezhov, 1979. *I. kurilensis*, described from the Pacific coast of Kurile Islands was also collected from the Okhotsk Sea and in the Tatar Strait of the Sea of Japan. *I. zachsi* and *I. starokadomskii* occur in the north-western part of the Sea of Japan, from the Peter the Great Bay to the Tatar Strait and also in the Okhotsk Sea. Furthermore, Nunomura (1992) described an isopod specimen from the stomach of a zoarcid fish collected in the Sea of Japan off Iwasa, Toyama Prefecture,