



A redescription of *Metopa* species (Amphipoda, Stenothoidae) based on the type material. 1. Zoological Museum, Copenhagen (ZMUC)

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Abstract

This paper presents redescrptions of amphipods in the genus *Metopa* (Stenothoidae) in the type-collections of the Zoological Museum of Copenhagen. For *Metopa clypeata* and *M. abyssalis* we redescrbe the type-specimens, for *M. glacialis* and *M. groenlandica* the redescrptions are based on new material and checked against the type-specimens. For all except *M. abyssalis* a combination of new line drawings and scanning electron microscope (SEM) pictures is provided, for *M. abyssalis*, line drawings only. A summary of the other species having earlier been designed to *Metopa* in the Copenhagen collections is given, with a list of their present taxonomic position.

Key words: Amphipoda, *Metopa*, redescription, Zoological Museum Copenhagen, *Metopa clypeata*, *Metopa glacialis*, *Metopa groenlandica*, *Metopa abyssalis*

Introduction

The amphipod family Stenothoidae is a large and complex family, with 30 different genera that traditionally have mostly been separated by the number of articles on the palps of maxilla 1 and mandible, the presence or absence of an accessory flagellum of antenna 1 and the form of the basis of pereopods 6 and 7 (Barnard & Karaman, 1991). Most of the genera contain a small number of species, and the two large genera *Stenothoe* and *Metopa* are often considered "catch-alls". There is a clear need for a phylogenetic revision of *Metopa*, but as several of the species are lacking modern descriptions, this has to be performed first.

The genus *Metopa* (Stenothoidae, Amphipoda) consists according to Barnard & Karaman (1991) of 50 described species; since then *M. gurjanovae*, *M. shoemakeri* (both Tzvetkova & Golikov 1990) and *M. longipalpa* Ren (in Ren & Huang 1991) have been added; of these many are found in arctic and boreal waters. Many species have been known for a long time. Sars (1892) includes 21 from Norway, but gives descriptions of the mouthparts only for *Metopa alderi*, (and the maxilliped from *M. pollexiana* which has later been synonymized with *M. norvegica*). Since then 2 of Sars' 21 mentioned species have been synonymized with other *Metopa*, and a further 4 have been moved to other stenothoid genera. Several other species of *Metopa* are poorly described, or even (as is the case with the type species) have no description in a modern sense.

As part of a programme of making re-descriptions of many of the *Metopa* species, we have started with the type-species, *Leucothoe clypeata* Krøyer, the type-material of which is held at the Zoological Museum of Copenhagen. We include in this paper re-descriptions of the other types for *Metopa* kept in Copenhagen: *M. glacialis* (Krøyer, 1842), *M. groenlandica* Hansen, 1888 and *M. abyssalis* Stephensen, 1931. The type of *Metopa latimana* Hansen, 1888 is also kept in Copenhagen, but the type material is not suitable for re-descriptions, as the only existing specimen, the holotype, has its mouthparts dissected out; these slides are no longer present. The remaining parts are in complete agreement with Hansens description and figures. We hope to present further papers on the type-collections of *Metopa* from the Zoological Museum at the University of