



## Contributions to the taxonomy of the Normanellidae (Copepoda, Harpacticoida): description of a new genus from the Brazilian continental shelf and re-assignment of *Pseudocletodes vararensis* Scott & Scott, 1893 (*ex* Nannopodidae)

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### Abstract

A new genus and species of Normanellidae (Copepoda, Harpacticoida), *Paranaia inajae* **gen. et sp. nov.**, is described from the continental shelf off the northern coast of São Paulo State, Brazil. The new genus differs from the type genus *Normanella* Brady, 1880 and *Sagamiella* Lee & Huys, 1999 in its presence of lamelliform caudal rami, a maxillary endopod represented by 2 setae, an unarmed maxillipedal syncoxa, and reduced setation on P2 enp-2 (without outer spine) and P3 enp-2 (with only 2 inner setae). All these apomorphic character states are shared with the genus *Pseudocletodes* Scott & Scott, 1893, formerly placed in the family Nannopodidae (*ex* Huntmanniidae) and here assigned to the Normanellidae. *Pseudocletodes* can be differentiated from *Paranaia* by the loss of the P1 endopod and of the inner seta on P2–P4 enp-1, the presence of only 2 inner setae on P2 enp-2 (instead of 3) and only 1 inner seta on P4 exp-3 (instead of 2), the presence of a second inner seta on P4 enp-2 (instead of 1), the morphology of the fifth pair of legs which are not medially fused and have only 3 endopodal elements (instead of 4) in the male, and the well developed caudal ramus seta V (instead of rudimentary). It is postulated that prehensibility of the P1 endopod was secondarily lost in the common ancestor of *Paranaia* and *Pseudocletodes*. An updated family diagnosis of the Normanellidae and a dichotomous identification key to the 22 currently valid species are presented.

**Key words:** Taxonomy, meiofauna, systematics, identification key, São Paulo State, Brazil