



On the presence of *Anchistioides willeyi* (Borradaile, 1899) (Decapoda: Caridea: Anchistioididae) in the Red Sea

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The palaemonoid family Anchistioididae Borradaile, 1915 includes a single genus *Anchistioides* Paulson, 1875 with four known valid species: *Anchistioides compressus* Paulson, 1875 (type species), *A. willeyi* (Borradaile, 1899), *A. australiensis* (Balss, 1921) and *A. antiguensis* (Schmitt, 1924). Borradaile (1915) suggested two more species within the genus *Amphipalaemon* Nobili, 1901 (a junior synonym of *Anchistioides* Paulson), *Amphipalaemon gardineri* Borradaile, 1915 (= *Anchistioides gardineri*) and *Amphipalaemon cooperi* Borradaile, 1915 (= *Anchistioides cooperi*) which were later synonymized with *Anchistioides willeyi* by Gordon (1935), who also suggested their conspecificity with *Anchistioides australiensis*. At the present time, *Anchistioides australiensis* is a valid species (Bruce, 1971; Chace & Bruce, 1993) based on specific morphological features such as the presence of sharp postorbital tooth, oblique distal lamella of scaphocerite and sharply produced spines on posterodorsal angles of sixth abdominal somite (see Bruce, 1971: fig. 9). The other Indo-Pacific species, *Anchistioides compressus* and *A. willeyi*, can be clearly identified by specific form of scaphocerite, the presence of a well marked blunt postorbital tubercle in *A. willeyi* which is absent in *A. compressus* (e.g., Bruce, 1971) and the number of ventral rostral teeth (3-4 large ventral rostral teeth present in *A. willeyi* while up to 8 small ventral rostral teeth in *A. compressus* (Paulson, 1875; Gordon, 1935)). *Anchistioides antiguensis* is clearly separated geographically being known only from the tropical Western Atlantic and Caribbean region (Schmitt, 1924; Holthuis, 1951; Wheeler & Brown, 1968; Martinez-Iglesias, 1986; Markham et al, 1990; Ramos-Porto et al, 1998; Cardoso, 2006).

At the same time, the validity of species within the “*willeyi*” species group is still unclear. The taxonomical status of *A. cooperi* and *A. gardineri* should be verified as well as several undescribed species known from the Indo-West Pacific region (see Chace & Bruce, 1993). In such a situation, the description of each of known specimen from the “*willeyi*” group is important to allowing further clarify taxonomical identification as well as documenting species distribution. While processing the palaemonoid collection deposited in the Senckenberg Museum (Frankfurt-at-Maine, Germany) single male specimen of *Anchistioides willeyi* (Borradaile, 1899) collected in Port Sudan, Red Sea was found. This record significantly increases the known distribution of the species and provides a new species record for the fauna of Red Sea since only *Anchistioides compressus* has been previously known from this region (Paulson, 1875). Thus, the label information and morphological features of the specimen are presented below.

Family Anchistioididae Borradaile, 1915

Genus *Anchistioides* Paulson, 1875

Anchistioides willeyi (Borradaile, 1899)

(Fig. 1)

Palaemonopsis willeyi Borradaile, 1898: 410, pls. 36, 37, fig. 7

Amphipalaemon willeyi Nobili, 1905: 5; Borradaile, 1917: 407, pl. 59, fig. 13.

Anchistioides willeyi Gordon, 1935: 344, figs. 23a, 24a; Holthuis, 1952: 214, 215, figs. 106, 107; Bruce, 1971: 22, fig. 8.

Material examined. Red Sea: Sudan, Al Bahr al Ahmar, Sanganeb Atoll, 28 km NE of Port Sudan, S-Mole, SAN-122, 30 m depth, from living *Stylophora*, 27.09.1992, leg. V. Neumann, 1 male, pcl. 3.1 mm (SMF 33833).