



Zootaxa 2891: 1–62 (2011)
www.mapress.com/zootaxa/

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Monograph

ISSN 1175-5326 (print edition)

ZOOTAXA

ISSN 1175-5334 (online edition)

ZOOTAXA

2891

**Paratanaoidean tanaidaceans (Crustacea: Peracarida) from
littoral and shallow sublittoral habitats in New Zealand, with
descriptions of three new genera and seven new species**

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Magnolia Press
Auckland, New Zealand

Accepted by R. Bamber: 4 Apr. 2011; published: 25 May 2011

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(*Zootaxa* 2891)

62 pp.; 30 cm.

25 May 2011

ISBN 978-1-86977-731-9 (paperback)

ISBN 978-1-86977-732-6 (Online edition)

FIRST PUBLISHED IN 2011 BY

Magnolia Press

P.O. Box 41-383

Auckland 1346

New Zealand

e-mail: zootaxa@mapress.com

<http://www.mapress.com/zootaxa/>

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ISSN 1175-5326 (Print edition)

ISSN 1175-5334 (Online edition)

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Abstract

Three new genera and seven new species of paratanaoidean tanaidaceans are described from a variety of littoral and shallow sublittoral habitats around New Zealand, from the Snares Islands to Northland. These include a new leptocheliid genus, *Parakonarus*, closely allied to *Konarus* Bamber, and three paratanaids: two species of *Paratanais* Dana and a new genus, *Atemtanais*, which appears to show characters intermediate between *Metatanais* Shiino and *Paratanais*. The remaining three taxa belong either to the Tanaellidae (a new species of *Araphura* Bird & Holdich) or are of *incertae sedis* family status: *Kanikipa* n. gen. and a new species of *Tanaopsis* G.O. Sars.

This study has almost doubled the known, published records of shallow-water tanaidomorphan species in New Zealand and all of the species are likely to be recorded more widely than the records here imply.

Key words: Tanaidacea, Paratanaoidea, Leptocheliidae, Paratanaidae, Tanaellidae, *Atemtanais*, *Araphura*, *Kanikipa*, *Parakonarus*, *Paratanais*, *Tanaopsis*, littoral, taxonomy, Mana BioBlitz, New Zealand

Introduction

The marine littoral fauna of New Zealand, its offshore island groups and Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ), is diverse, extending over a wide latitudinal range and several zoogeographic provinces (Gordon *et al.* 2010; Morton 2004). While the larger macrofauna is generally well-known, smaller organisms such as peracarid crustaceans are more likely to be overlooked and remain undescribed. This applies particularly to the abundant and diverse microfaunas of *Corallina* and other algal turfs, holdfasts, and crevices on rocky shores, the first well termed the “intimate fauna of algae” by Morton (*op.cit.*: 143–148). Among these gastropod/polychaete/crustacean-rich assemblages (Hicks 1971) are the tanaidaceans, a peracarid group related to the more familiar amphipods and isopods (Sieg 1983a). The few studies of littoral tanaidaceans in New Zealand going back to the 19th Century have described several species, most being of the sub-order Apseudomorpha (e.g. Chilton 1882, 1883; Stephensen 1927; Gardiner 1973; Knight & Heard 2006). The smaller Tanaidomorpha species have not been quite as well studied and there are only two primary published records for a single paratanaoidean species: *Paratanais tenuis* (Thomson,