



Tanaidacea (Crustacea) from Macaronesia II. The deep-water fauna from the Azores archipelago, Portugal

KIM LARSEN

CIMAR/CIIMAR (Centro Interdisciplinar de Investigação Marinha e Ambiental), LMCEE (Laboratory for Marine Community Ecology and Evolution), Rua dos Bragas 289, 4050-123 Porto, Portugal. E-mail: tanaids@hotmail.com

Abstract

As part of Portugal's bid for extending the country's exclusive economic zone, the EMEPC collection program was initiated. From this program several new species of Tanaidacea have been collected during various expeditions. In this paper three new species of Tanaidacea are described from the Azores archipelago in the Mid-Atlantic, Portugal. Two of them belong to the apseudomorphan genera *Leviapseudes* (*L. macaronesia*), *Pseudosphyrapus* (*P. azorensis*), and another new species belong to the tanaidomorphan genus *Paratanais* (*P. pseudomartinsi*).

Key words: Tanaidacea, Tanaidomorpha, Apseudomorpha, Azores Archipelago, Macaronesia, *Leviapseudes*, *Paratanais*, *Pseudosphyrapus*. Portugal

Introduction

This paper reports on the tanaidacean fauna collected via the ROV *Luso* deployed from N.R.P. *Almirante Gago Coutinho* in the summer of 2009 during the EMEPC cruise to the Azores archipelago in the Mid-Atlantic. For details about this program see Larsen (in press) which deals with the deep-water Tanaidacea from another EMEPC cruise to another Macaronesian archipelago (the Selvagen Islands). The species dealt with in this paper were encountered during the Azores cruise and belongs to the genera: *Leviapseudes*, from the family Apseudidae; *Pseudosphyrapus* from the family Sphyrapodidae; and *Paratanais*, from the family Paratanaidae.

The shallow water tanaid fauna of the Azores consist of the commonly found taxa, like *Leptochelia* Dana 1849; *Tanais* Latreille, 1831; and *Paratanais* Dana, 1852, although the typically found shallow-water taxa of Apseudidae seems to be lacking (Bamber & Costa 2009). The deep-water fauna off the Azores archipelago, consist mainly of typical deep water taxa like *Agathotanaeis* Hansen, 1913; *Leptognathia* G.O. Sars, 1882; *Leviapseudes* Sieg, 1983; *Mesotanaeis* Dollfus, 1897; *Paratyphlotanaeis* Kudinova-Pasternak & Pasternak, 1978; *Pseudosphyrapus* Guțu, 1980; *Siphonolabrum* Lang, 1872; and *Typhlotanaeis* G.O. Sars, 1882 (Dollfus 1897, Lang 1971, 1972) but this finding of *Paratanais* in deep water during this study also indicate a certain taxa overlap.

Material and methods

The material is deposited in Museum Municipal do Funchal (História Natural), Madeira and was collected during the EMEPC expedition (Estrutura de Missão Para Extensão de Plataforma Continental), 01–30 June 2010. The collections were taken from soft substrate, via push cores operated by the ROV *Luso*, deployed from the Portuguese research vessel N.R.P. *Almirante Gago Coutinho*. The material was sieved over a 0.5 mm sieve and the residue examined on board before immediate fixation in 95% alcohol.

Dissections were made in glycerin using chemically sharpened tungsten wire needles. Body length was measured from the tip of the cephalothorax to the apex of the pleotelson. The terminology in the descriptions is based on Larsen (2003). Adjectives such as *long* and *short* are used as relative qualifiers in respect of the appendage being described.