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Inshore apseudomorph tanaidaceans (Crustacea: Peracarida) from Brunei: new records and new species

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Abstract

Five species of apseudomorph tanaidaceans were distinguished in recent samples from inshore waters off Brunei. Two of these, *Phoxokalliapseudes gobinae* and *Mendamanus ailurostoma*, were known only from Brunei waters, while *Pagurapseudopsis gracilipes* was known before only from Vietnam waters. The opportunity is taken to describe the female cheliped of *P. spinipes*, highlighting the previously unknown sexual dimorphism. For all three of these species, the present material represents only the second record. The two further species were new to science, and are described herein. One is in the apseudid genus *Apseudopsis*, and characterized by unusual apophyses on the uropod basis, while the other represents a new parapseudid genus, showing affinities to *Pakistanapseudes* and *Saltipedis*.

Key words: Brunei, South China Sea, Tanaidacea, *Aponychos*, *Apseudopsis*, *Mendamanus*, *Pagurapseudopsis*, *Phoxokalliapseudes*

Introduction

The earliest study of the Tanaidacea of the southern South China Sea was Shiino's (1963) investigation of material from the Naga Expedition off South Vietnam. He recorded a diversity of unusual apseudomorphs in bottom samples from depths between 3 and 50 m. The first specific study of Tanaidacea from Brunei, by Bamber (1998), again found unusual apseudomorph taxa, together with a commonality with the species found by Shiino, from the soft-sediment benthos at around 60 m depth. Subsequently, Bamber and Sheader (2003, 2005), sampling shallower waters off Sabah, just to the north of Brunei, discovered further apseudomorph taxa as well as species in common with the Brunei and Vietnam studies. Of thirteen species of the Apseudomorpha recorded off the northern coasts of Borneo, ten were new to science (including one distinguished subsequently, see Drumm and Heard 2011), the remainder—the apseudids *Apseudes nageae* Shiino, 1963 and *A. gallardoi* Shiino, 1963, and the parapseudid *Hainanius nigrifrons* (Shiino, 1963)—having been discovered by the Naga Expedition (Shiino 1963); three new genera were described. There were clear implications of a broadly distributed fauna associated with the regions swept by the Hainan Current, as well as the adjacent Sulu Sea, but a fauna distinct from that known from the more northerly waters around Hong Kong (e.g. Bamber, 2000 and references therein).

The present paper reports on material from two recent samples also collected from the waters of Brunei, from the littoral and at a depth of 2–8 m. While two of the species recorded previously from Brunei were confirmed, and another of Shiino's species was recorded for the first time since the type-collection, two further new species of apseudomorph were discovered. One of these new species also represents a new genus, again emphasizing the unusual and apparently diverse representation of apseudomorphs in the region.