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On three new species of *Cypretta* Vávra, 1895 (Crustacea: Ostracoda) from the Yucatan Peninsula, Mexico

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Abstract

Three new species of the genus *Cypretta* Vávra, 1895 are described from Southern Mexico, representing the first record of the genus in the country. *Cypretta campechensis* n. sp. is closely related to Florida and North Carolina species such as *C. nigra* Furtos, 1936, *C. brevisaepta* Furtos, 1934 and *C. bilicis* Furtos, 1936. *Cypretta spinosa* n. sp. is related to the North and South American species *C. intonsa* Furtos, 1936 and *C. vivacis* Würdig & Pinto, 1993, but also to some Australian and South-East Asian Islands ones, such as *C. obfusca* Victor & Fernando, 1981 and *C. raciborskii* (Grochmalicki, 1915). The last species described herein, *Cypretta maya* n. sp., is closely related to the South-East Asia islands, Australian and north Indian species, in particular to *C. hirsuta* Henry, 1923, *C. longidactyla* Victor & Fernando, 1981, and *C. patialensis* Battish, 1982.

Key words: Biodiversity, Zoogeography, Systematics, Freshwater Ostracods

Introduction

The genus *Cypretta* Vávra, 1895, includes ostracods living predominantly in freshwater with some species occasionally found in waters with a higher salinity, such as *Cypretta lindbergi* Hartmann, 1964 and *Cypretta foveata* Hartmann, 1964 (De Deckker 1981; Hartmann 1964). The genus is considered tropical and subtropical, although some species have been recorded from temperate regions of North America, Europe (Sharpe 1910, Furtos 1936, Sohn & Kornicker 1973) and Australia. The type species, *Cypretta tenicauda* (Vávra, 1895), was described from Zanzibar (Vávra 1895), as a subgenus of *Cypridopsis* Brady, 1867. Müller (1898) erected it to the genus *Cypretta*, based on the presence of the radial septa along the anterior margin of the valves and a fully developed uropodal (furcal) ramus, which has a trunk and two narrow, elongated claws.

Furtos (1934), and later Sohn & Kornicker (1973) revised the diagnosis of the group and provided details of some appendages such as the second antenna, mandible, uropodal ramus and shell structure. Although Sohn & Kornicker (1973) provided the most accurate description of the genus, up to now the morphology of some appendages and structures remain poorly described in this genus. Currently, several authors have different points of view concerning the real number of species belonging to *Cypretta* genus (Kempff 1980, 1997; Martens & Savatnalinton 2011; Karanovic 2012) but all of them agree with more than 40 species among it. Descriptions of many species are limited and based just on the carapace outline and the appearance of the uropodal ramus. These incomplete taxonomic descriptions are the major problem in the systematics of this genus and could be a possible cause of the discrepancy among authors, some synonyms on one side, and hidden diversity on the other.

Here, we provide the list of nominal species presently assigned to the genus *Cypretta* following Karanovic