Two new species of Tanaidacea (Crustacea, Peracarida) from Taiwan

YOU-WEI TZENG & PAN-WEN HSUEH

Department of Life Sciences, National Chung Hsing University, Taichung, Taiwan

Corresponding author. E-mail: pwhsueh@dragon.nchu.edu.tw

Abstract

Two new species, representing the genus Aparatanais of the family Paratanidae and the genus Tanais of the family Tanaidae (both families belonging to the suborder Tanaidomorpha), are described in the present study. The genus Aparatanais, the family Paratanidae and the superfamily Paratanaoidea are recorded for the first time from Taiwan. Aparatanais lenoprimorum sp. nov. departs from its congeners by the lack of subdistal teeth on the superior margin of the right mandible and without serration on left mandible lacinia mobilis. Tanais nuwalianensis sp. nov. is distinguished from its most similar congener, Tanais tinhaue, by the presence of a much smaller right mandible lacinia mobilis, fewer carpal spines on pereopods 2–6, fewer leaf-like setae on the distal margin of the propodus of Pereopod 6, and fewer inner setae on the pleopod basis. Morphological comparisons between members of the genus Aparatanais, as well as the genus Tanais are tabulated.

Key words: Taiwan, Aparatanais, Tanais

Introduction

Tanaidaceans are small crustaceans inhabiting a wide range of habitats, from freshwater, the intertidal zone, deep oceanic trenches, and from polar waters to the tropics. In some environmental conditions (e.g. deep-sea soft bottoms), this group is highly diverse and abundant (Blazewicz-Paszkowycz et al. 2012). Although attention to this group has intensified in the last ten years, with over 400 new species described since the year 2000 (Blazewicz-Paszkowycz et al. 2012), little information on tanaidaceans is available from Taiwan.

Within the family Paratanidae Lang, 1949, Bird and Bamber (2013) erected three new genera (Acallocheirus Bird & Bamber, 2013, Aparatanais Bird & Bamber, 2013, and Penteparatanais Bird & Bamber, 2013) and transferred five species from Paratanais to the Aparatanais. The present study follows the most recent taxonomic scheme of Tanaidacea provided by G. Anderson (2013).

Recently, two species of tanaidaceans were collected from intertidal rocky habitats on the coast of eastern Taiwan. One of them has plumose seta on pleonites 1–4 epimera, four-articled antennules, unfused maxilliped endites broader than the basis, short uropod rami with one-segmented exopods and two-segmented endopods, and a heavy serrate spine on the article 2 of the maxilliped palps (Bird & Bamber 2013), and is classified to the genus Aparatanais. The present species departs from its congeners by the lack of subdistal spines on the superior margin of right mandible and without serration on left mandible lacinia mobilis. The second species has been assigned to the genus Tanais Milne-Edwards, 1828 by 1) the presence of four free pleonites and first three pleonites with paired pleopods, 2) the pleopods basal article having seven to eleven setae on outer margin, 3) the presence of six aesthetasc on terminal article of antennule, 4) the presence of maxilliped coxa and a pair of long setulate setae on maxilliped endites, and 5) the lack of ischium on pereopods, which fit the diagnosis of Tanais given by Edgar (2008). This species is distinguished from its most closely resembling congener, Tanais tinhaue Bamber & Bird, 1997, by the presence of a much smaller right mandible lacinia mobilis, fewer carpal spines on pereopod 2–6, fewer leaf-like setae on the distal margin of the propodus of Pereopod 6, and fewer inner setae on the pleopod basis. Thus, the two new taxa of tanaidaceans are described here.
Acknowledgements

We thank Dr. Roger Bamber and two anonymous reviewers for the valuable comments on our early draft of manuscript. Thanks also go to Drs. Roger Bamber & Graham Bird who provide important references on *Tanais pongo* and *Aparatanais*.

References


