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Ttetaloia hoshinoi, a new genus and species of chondracanthid copepod (Poecilostomatoida) parasitic on triplefins (Actinopterygii: Tripterygiidae) from Japanese waters

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Abstract

A new genus and species of copepod, *Ttetaloia hoshinoi*, of the poecilostomatoid family Chondracanthidae is described based on specimens removed from the body surface of three species of triplefins (Perciformes: Tripterygiidae), *Enneapterygius etheostomus* (Jordan & Snyder) (type host), *E. miyakensis* Fricke, and *Springerichthys bapturus* (Jordan & Snyder), collected in the coastal waters of Izu-Oshima Island and the Izu Peninsula, the North Pacific Ocean, Japan. The new genus resembles *Diocus* by sharing some important characters in the female, such as a squat trunk bearing well-developed posterolateral processes, a pair of minute caudal rami situated on the midventral surface of the genito-abdomen, and unmodified and biramous legs 1 and 2. The male of the new genus also shares distinct body somites, an atrophied tip on the antenna, and three pairs of legs with the males of *Diocus*. However, it is clearly differentiated from *Diocus* by the combination of the following characters: the female has a body comprised of a head and trunk, a head composed of the cephalosome fused with the first and second pedigers and bearing two pairs of cephalothoracic processes on the ventrolateral surface, an unsegmented, asetose antennule, and an accessory process on the terminal uncinate segment of the antenna; and the male has the cephalosome distinctly separated from the first pediger and legs 1 to 3 are all highly vestigial, with the first two pairs consisting of setose knobs and the third pair represented by a minute conical process.

Key words: parasitic copepod, Chondracanthidae, Izu Peninsula, Izu-Ohshima Island, North Pacific Ocean

Introduction

The Chondracanthidae Milne Edwards, 1840 is a family of highly transformed parasitic copepods (Østergaard 2003) and its species predominantly occur in the oral or branchial cavities of marine demersal fishes (Boxshall & Halsey 2004). Thirty genera were recognized in Ho's (1970) revision of the Chondracanthidae. Since then, 17 new genera have been added to the family (see Etchegoin *et al*. 2003; Luque & Alves 2003; Østergaard 2003; Østergaard *et al*. 2003; Boxshall & Halsey 2004; Thatcher & Pereira 2004; Ho *et al*. 2011). Ostergaard *et al*. (2003) recently transferred *Pharodes* C. B. Wilson, 1935 to the Chondracanthidae, and Tang & Ho (2005) resurrected *Acanthocanthopsis* Heegaard, 1945. Furthermore, Huys *et al*. (2006) relegated the Lernaeosoleidae Yamaguti, 1963 to a junior subjective synonym of the Chondracanthidae (thus, the former lernaeosoleid genera *Lernaeosolea* C. B. Wilson, 1944 and *Bobkabata* Hogan & Benz, 1990 are by default transferred to

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