

A new species of *Moraria* (Crustacea: Copepoda: Harpacticoida) from the Laurentian Great Lakes

JANET W. REID¹ & LYNN T. LESKO²

¹ Research Associate, Division of Science and Learning, Virginia Museum of Natural History, Martinsville, Virginia; Correspondence Address: 1100 Cherokee Court, Martinsville, VA 24112-5318, USA; email: jwrassociates@sitestar.net

² 11123 Boyce Road, Chelsea, MI 48118, USA; email: ltlesko@netzero.net

Abstract

Moraria hudsoni n. sp. is described from Trails End Bay in Lake Michigan and Prentiss Bay in Lake Huron, Michigan, USA. The new species differs from its congeners in chaetotaxy, body ornamentation, and other characters. We review published records of members of *Moraria* from North and Central America; no species is known from South America. Species of this genus have been found in the mountains of southern Mexico, Guatemala, and Honduras, but none of these has been validly described. In North America, eight species have been recorded from Alaska, Canada, and the conterminous USA as far south as North Carolina. We report new geographical records of *M. affinis* from Virginia, and of both *M. cristata* and *M. virginiana* from Maryland and Virginia. We provide a tabular key to aid in identification of the named species of *Moraria* in North America.

Key words: Copepoda, Harpacticoida, Laurentian Great Lakes, taxonomy, new species, *Moraria*

Introduction

In collections from the Laurentian Great Lakes made by Patrick L. Hudson and associates of the Great Lakes Science Center at Ann Arbor, Michigan, there appeared a species of the harpacticoid copepod genus *Moraria* that could not be attributed to any presently known taxon in the genus. We describe the new species and compare it to congeners.

The taxonomic literature on this genus is widely scattered and there is no recent revision. We review records of *Moraria* from North and Central America, and discuss the known geographical distributions and habitats of all the named North American species. To aid readers, references to the original descriptions of the taxa mentioned are provided, although some of these articles are not cited directly in the text.