

***Parapionosyllis* (Polychaeta: Syllidae: Exogoninae) from Tenerife (Canary Islands, Spain) with description of a new species and new records**

RODRIGO RIERA*, JORGE NÚÑEZ AND MARÍA DEL CARMEN BRITO

Laboratorio de Bentos, Departamento de Biología Animal, Facultad de Biología, Universidad de La Laguna, 38206 La Laguna, Tenerife, Islas Canarias, España.

*Corresponding author: rodrigo@cimacanarias.com

Abstract

Three species of *Parapionosyllis*: *P. minuta* (Pierantoni, 1903), *P. macaronesiensis* Brito, Núñez & San Martín, 2000 and a new species *P. abriguensis*, were recorded from shallow subtidal sandy substrates of Tenerife. The new species is characterized by having bidentate ventral simple chaetae and a marked dorso-ventral gradation in the length of the compound chaetae. Data on the ecology of these species, as well as a key for all *Parapionosyllis* known from the Canary Islands are provided.

Key words: Polychaeta, Syllidae, Exogoninae, *Parapionosyllis*, soft-bottoms, Tenerife, Canary Islands

Introduction

Species of the genus *Parapionosyllis* Fauvel, 1923 are all interstitial polychaetes, not exceeding 3 mm long; are typical species of shallow depths, from intertidal pools to subtidal sandy substrates. The first descriptions of *Parapionosyllis* were published at the end of the 19th century and at the beginning of the 20th, although they were placed in other genera like *Sphaerosyllis longicirrata* described by Webster & Benedict (1884), *Pionosyllis papillosa*, *P. elegans*, *P. gestans* and *P. minuta* by Pierantoni (1903). The genus *Parapionosyllis* was erected by Fauvel (1923). The genus is included in the subfamily Exogoninae Langerhans, 1879, characterized by having a homogeneous morphology in all genera, with slight chaetiger differences. The main morphological characteristics that define this genus are: a single pair of tentacular cirri, broad and anteriorly hollow acicula. The genera *Brania* Quatrefages, 1866 and *Erinaceosyllis* San Martín, 2005 resembles