



A redescription of *Metopa* species (Amphipoda, Stenothoidae) based on the type material. 2. The United States National Museum of Natural History (NMNH)

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Abstract

This paper presents redescrptions of amphipods in the genus *Metopa* (Stenothoidae) in the type-collections of the United States National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution.

Type- and paratype-material is used for *Metopa spinicoxa* and *M. stelleri*. The material used for *M. dawsoni* is from a station very close to the type locality, and identified by Barnard, who is the author of the species. We have used material from the Albatross expedition in 1906, identified by Shoemaker, for *M. cristata* and *M. majuscula*, both originally described by Gurjanova. All species are redescrbed using line drawings, and comparisons with the original texts and figures.

Key words:

Introduction

The history and systematic details of the stenothoid amphipod genus *Metopa* were presented in Tandberg & Vader (2009). This is the second of three planned papers concerning redescrptions of *Metopa* material from different museums, the third will deal with material collected by Sars and Boeck in the collections of the Zoological Museum in Oslo.

The amphipod collections in NMNH have mostly been studied by C.S. Shoemaker, who worked with the collection from his early career as Scientific Aide to the Division of Marine Invertebrates in 1910 to his death in 1958 (Bowman & Peterson, 1965), and later by J.L. Barnard, who was curator of crustacea from 1964 to his death in 1991. As J.L. Barnard worked in California also with amphipod systematics from 1949 until his posting at the Smithsonian (Thomas, 1992), much of his earlier material is still deposited in Californian museums (pers comm. W. Moser).

Two *Metopa*-species described by J.L. Barnard (*Metopa ?samsiluna* Barnard 1966 and *M. cistella* Barnard 1969) are not represented with type-specimens (or at all in the collections) at the NMNH, and the species originally described as *Metopa pacifica* (Holmes, 1908) was moved to *Proboloides pacifica* by Barnard & Karaman (1991) (see Table 1).

Much of the material in the amphipod-collections of the NMNH was collected during the Albatross-cruises, and in the case of *Metopa*, which is a cold-water genus (Tandberg & Vader, 2009) much material is also present from the National Fisheries Station at Point Barrow, Alaska. (Shoemaker, 1955).

TABLE 1. Species within the type-collections of NMNH having been described as *Metopa* and since moved from the genus.

Original denomination	Author	New denomination	Citation for move
<i>Metopa pacifica</i>	Holmes, 1908	<i>Proboloides pacifica</i>	Barnard and Karaman (1991)