

## A redescription of a common euryhaline cumacean from southern Brazil: *Diastylis sympterygiae* Băcescu & Queiroz, 1985 (Crustacea: Cumacea)

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### Abstract

*Diastylis sympterygiae* Băcescu & Queiroz (1985) has been reported in many ecological studies conducted in the Patos Lagoon, southern Brazil. However, the original description of this species is based on damaged specimens from stomach contents of rays, and therefore insufficient for a confident identification. In the present contribution, based on a large number of well-preserved specimens now available from the type locality area, the description of this common euryhaline species is completed and its range of distribution as far north as São Paulo is extended.

**Key words:** Diastylidae, Peracarida, taxonomy, South-West Atlantic

### Introduction

Băcescu and Queiroz (1985) found three species of cumaceans in the stomachs of two species of skates (genus *Sympterygia*) from Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil: *Leptocuma kinbergii* Sars, 1873 and *Makrokylindrus bacescui* Brum, 1971 and the new species *Diastylis sympterygiae*. The latter prevailed over the other two, with more than 200 specimens in several stomachs. However, the poor preservation condition of this material prevented Băcescu and Queiroz (1985) from describing and illustrating the habitus and many of the appendages of this species.

Although *D. sympterygiae* was not originally described in much detail, it has already been reported in many ecological studies carried out in the estuarine area of the Lagoa dos Patos and also on the continental shelf close to the mouth of this lagoon (Bemvenuti 1997; Capítoli 1997; Gianuca 1997; Bemvenuti & Netto 1998; Bemvenuti *et al.* 2003; Gandra *et al.* 2006; Rosa & Bemvenuti 2004, 2006, 2007; Colling *et al.* 2007; among others).

At present we have a large number of specimens of *D. sympterygiae* from southern Brazil in good condition of preservation. This has allowed us to complete the description of this common euryhaline cumacean and to extend its range of distribution as far north as São Paulo State.

### Material and methods

The specimens studied were collected at the Patos Lagoon and off São Paulo State (Fig. 1). A detailed list of this material follows:

Rio Grande do Sul State, mouth of the Patos Lagoon, south to São José do Norte, coll. Norton Mattos Gianuca, RELAR Project, samples taken with a plankton net. Sta. 1, 32°01.43'S, 52°02.6'W: 11 Nov 1976, 6 m above bottom, at night, S= 13, 7 ad. ♀♀, 1 ad. ♂, 24 imm. (MACN-In. 37957); 25 Nov 1976, 1 m above bottom, at night, S= 21.7, 6 ad. ♀♀, 16 ad. ♂♂, 18 imm. (MACN-In. 37958); 09 Dec 1976, 6 m above bottom,