



Three new species from the Aoridae and Maeridae (Crustacea, Amphipoda) from Thai Waters

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Abstract

Four species of amphipods from the families Aoridae and Maeridae were collected from Thai Waters in 2011. Three species, *Grandidierella phetraensis* **sp. nov.**, *Ceradocus andamanensis* **sp. nov.** and *Pareiasmopus siamensis* **sp. nov.** are new to science and *Bemlos quadrimanus* (Sivaprakasam, 1970) has not been previously reported from Thai Waters. Their characters are described and illustrated. All specimens are deposited at Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn Natural History Museum, Prince of Songkla University, Thailand and the Museum für Naturkunde, Berlin.

Key words: Crustacea, Amphipoda, new species, taxonomy, Thai Waters, Aoridae, Maeridae

Introduction

Thai Waters consist of the Gulf of Thailand and the Andaman Sea, containing a variety of marine habitats. However, taxonomic knowledge on gammaridean amphipods is still poor and fragmented. Only 58 species from 17 families have been reported from Phuket Island, Andaman Sea (Bussarawich *et al.* 1984; Bussarawich 1985; Lowry & Berents 2002; Lowry & Stoddart 2002; Lowry & Watson 2002; Myers 2002; Peart 2002; Jansen & Dinesen 2002 & Lowry & Myers 2003) and 35 species from 17 families from the Gulf of Thailand where most studies focused on Songkhla Lake (Angsupanich & Kuwabara, 1995; Angsupanich *et al.*, 2005; Ariyama *et al.*, 2010 and Wongkamhaeng *et al.*, 2012).

In this study, we found a new species belonging to the Aoridae, *Grandidierella phetraensis* **sp. nov.** and other two new species of Maeridae, *Ceradocus andamanensis* **sp. nov.** and *Pareiasmopus siamensis* **sp. nov.** Figures and descriptions of these amphipods are provided.

Material and methods

Amphipods were collected by hand in a coral reef of Lidee Island, Satul Province and Samaesarn Island, Chonburi Province (Fig. 1). The sites were visited at low tide and amphipods were collected from the subtidal zone. Sediment was sieved with a 0.5 mm sieve. The amphipod specimens were sorted out and fixed in formalin for 1 week and then stored in 70% alcohol. In the laboratory, the animals were examined using a compound microscope and later selected for dissection. Dissected appendages were mounted on non-permanent slides in glycerol for study and later transferred into small glass tubes and kept with the specimens. The appendages were examined and drawn using a Leica DMLB light microscope with a camera lucida. The descriptions were generated from a DELTA database (Dallwitz, 2005). Illustrations were made using the methods described in Coleman (2003). The following abbreviations are used: A, antenna; G, gnathopod; LL, lower lip; MD, mandible; MX, maxilla; MP, maxilliped; P, pereopod; PLN, pleonite; Pl, pleopod; T, telson; U, uropod; UR, urosome; UL, upper lip. The type