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A review of the genus *Heterodina* Kensley & Schotte, 2005 (Crustacea: Isopoda: Sphaeromatidae) with description of a new species from Iran

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Abstract

Heterodina Schotte & Kensley, 2005 is revised with *Heterodina qeshmensis* sp. nov., described from the subtidal zone of the Qeshm Island, southern Iran. *Heterodina qeshmensis* sp. nov. is characterized by: unornamented dorsal surfaces, wide and anteriorly concave epistome, and the appendix masculina with sub-parallel margins and not extending beyond the distal margin of the endopod. A key to the species is provided. The penial processes of *Heterodina mccaini* Schotte & Kensley, 2005 is also re-illustrated.

Key words: Isopoda, Sphaeromatidea, *Heterodina*, Persian Gulf, Qeshm Island

Introduction

Heterodina Schotte & Kensley, 2005 is a small genus of two described species known from the tropical Western Indian Ocean and Caribbean. The genus belongs to a group of genera characterised by a generally flattened body shape, reduced pleon segmentation and a small uropodal exopod that is less than half the size of the exopod and inserted midway on the endopod lateral margin. The type species *Heterodina mccaini* Schotte & Kensley, 2005 was described from the sub-tidal zone (3.0–3.5 m depth) of the Saudi Arabian coast of the Persian Gulf. *Cassidinidea mosaica* (Kensley & Schotte, 1987) from Belize, Caribbean Central America was assigned to *Heterodina* by Schotte & Kensley (2005). The present paper describes the third species of the genus. As the original description of the genus *Heterodina* lacked several characters of generic significance therefore a revised generic description is provided for the genus.

Material and methods

Specimens for this study were collected using SCUBA from the northeastern coast of the Qeshm Island. Material was preserved in 70% ethanol. Collected specimens are deposited in the Zoological Museum Hamburg, Hamburg, Germany (ZMH), and the Zoological Museum, University of Tehran, Iran (ZUTC). Appendages were dissected and fixed in stained antibacterial glycerine-gelatine (Merck). Drawings were made with the aid of the camera lucida attached to Olympus BX 51; after inking all images were processed using Adobe Photoshop (version CS5). Terminology of the appendages follows that of Bruce (2006).

Abbreviations: USNM—Smithsonian Institution Natural Museum of Natural History, USA; ZMH—Zoologisches Museum Hamburg, Hamburg, Germany; ZUTC—Zoological Museum, University of Tehran, Iran. RS—Robust seta/e; CP—circumplumose seta/e; PMS—plumose marginal seta/e.

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