



Note on *Kurzia (Kurzia) latissima* (Kurz, 1875) (Branchiopoda: Anomopoda: Chydoridae) from India

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Members of the chydorid genus *Kurzia* Dybowski & Grochowski, 1894 (Branchiopoda: Anomopoda) are typically known from the Holarctic and the Neotropics (Rajapaska & Fernando 1986; Hudec 2000; Elmoor-Loureiro 2002; Kotov, 2004). One representative of the sub genus *Kurzia*, *Kurzia (Kurzia) latissima* (Kurz 1875) has been reported from India, in the Oriental Zone. These reports either have unreliable or no illustrations (Rane, 1983; Michael & Sharma 1988; Padhye & Dumont 2015). Recently, Chatterjee *et al.* (2013) have stated that records of *K. latissima* from India appear morphologically similar to *K. latissima* s.str. but have not elaborated on it. The aim of this correspondence is to present an initial diagnosis and provide illustrations of a *Kurzia latissima*-like population from the Northern Western Ghats, Maharashtra Province, India, along with comments on its distribution.

Collections were done by SP, in Jan 2010. Animals were collected from a small pool (18.515 N, 73.658 E, Altitude: 626m ASL) located nearly 30 km from Pune city, Maharashtra, India (Fig. 1 A 'red circle'). The pool had floating masses of algae with *Typha* sp. along the edges of the pool and *Marsilea* sp. as the floating vegetation, yet lacked any submerged aquatic vegetation. Other cladoceran species *Simocephalus (Simocephalus) mixtus* Sars, 1903 and *Ceriodaphnia cornuta* Sars, 1885 s. lat. were observed during the time of collection. pH of the water was 8.72, temperature was 24°C.

Locality data of all *K. latissima* reports from India were obtained using available reliable literature (Rane 1983; Michael & Sharma 1988, Chandrashekhar & Chatterjee 2002; Sharma & Sharma 2014). Specimens from collection were identified using Olympus Magnus (MS-24) stereo microscope and drawings were done with Olympus microscope (CX 41) with Camera Lucida. Multiple image were taken on Zeiss microscope (CX 41) and stacked using COMBINE ZP (<http://www.hadleyweb.pwp.blueyonder.co.uk/>) software. GIS data of the localities was obtained from Google Earth and maps were made using DIVA-GIS (v7.5c) (www.diva-gis.org). For identification, we used Hudec (2000), which has reliable drawings and keys of *Kurzia latissima* group. Description of characters follows Rajapaska & Fernando (1986) and Hudec (2000). For comparison of characters with *K. latissima* s str. with our material, we used the data from Hudec (2000).

One parthenogenetic and one sexual female were found in our collection from the pool near Pune City.

Genus *Kurzia* Dybowski and Grochowski, 1894

Subgenus *Kurzia* s.str.

Kurzia (Kurzia) latissima (Kurz, 1875) s. lat.

(Figs. 1 and 2)

Length: 0.652 (parthenogenetic female) & 0.664 mm (sexual female).

Shape. Body sub-rectangular, compressed laterally, dorsal margin curved and tapering posteriorly, maximum height near the middle (Fig. 2B).

Carapace lined with longitudinal lines, more conspicuous in parthenogenetic females, dorsal margin evenly arched, postero-ventral angle rounded, ventral margin lined with sub-equal setae starting anteriorly with long setae followed by short setae in the middle continued again by long setae which decrease in size posteriorly. Ventral margin of valves concave in middle bearing feathered setae longer at the anterior portion of the margin, decreasing in size in its middle and increasing in size at the posterior region (Fig. 2B).