



A new species of *Pycnogonum* Brünnich, 1764 (Arthropoda, Pycnogonida) from Flemish Cap (Northwest Atlantic Ocean)

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Abstract

A new pycnogonid species of the genus *Pycnogonum* is described from Flemish Cap (Northwest Atlantic Ocean) at 1453–1462 m depth. *Pycnogonum bamberi* sp. nov. is compared with its congeners, from which it can be distinguished by the combination of a glans-shaped proboscis, the low, transverse ridges that lie on the dorsodistal surfaces of the first coxae and femora of all legs and the distinctive conical tubercle on the mid-dorsal surface of the fourth segment of the trunk.

Key words: *Pycnogonum*, Pycnogonida, Flemish Cap, Northwest Atlantic Ocean

Introduction

The genus *Pycnogonum* Brünnich, 1764 consists of 72 species (Bamber & El Nagar 2015), 30 of which have been described after publication of Stock's (1966) key. This genus is characterized by a thick-set body, a large, usually robust proboscis and the complete absence of chelifores and palps.

The Pycnogonida of the western North Atlantic Ocean were comprehensively reviewed by Hedgpeth (1948) and Child (1982). Only Hedgpeth recorded the genus *Pycnogonum* and he recorded three species: *P. reticulatum* Hedgpeth, 1948; *P. litorale* (Ström, 1762) and *P. crassirostrum* Sars, 1888. These species are predominantly recorded from shallow to moderate depths but are also known from depths exceeding 2000 m. In this paper the deep sea species *Pycnogonum bamberi* sp. nov. from Flemish Cap (NW Atlantic Ocean) is described.

Type material has been lodged in the collections of the Museo Natural de Ciencias Naturales (MNCN), Madrid, Spain (MNCN 20.03/857).

Systematics

Family Pycnogonidae Wilson, 1878

Genus *Pycnogonum* Brünnich, 1764

Pycnogonum bamberi sp. nov.

Figs 1, 2

Material examined. **Holotype** - adult female (MNCN 20.03/857), NEREIDA 0509 CRUISE, RV Miguel Oliver, Flemish Cap, Station 12, 47° 46.63'–47.00'N to 43° 34.49'–34.88'W, 1462–1453 m, rock dredge, 6 June 2009.

Etymology. The proposed name for this new species recognizes the enormous contribution by Dr. Roger Bamber to the world of pycnogonids.

Description. Holotype, female. Body compact (Figs 1A, 2B), length 7.3 mm (proboscis and trunk), integument granulate, with small, scattered setae (Fig. 1B).