



A new amphipod *Nicippe rogeri* sp. nov. (Crustacea, Pardaliscidae) from New Zealand's deep sea

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Abstract

The amphipod family Pardaliscidae has a worldwide distribution and is considered to be especially common in the deep sea. This is the first record of the genus *Nicippe* in New Zealand waters and a new species, *N. rogeri* sp. nov. is described in honour of Dr. Roger Bamber. This brings the number of species in the genus *Nicippe* worldwide to four. The new species is described in detail and a key to the four species of *Nicippe* is provided.

Key words: Taxonomy, New Zealand, deep-sea, Amphipoda, *Nicippe rogeri*

Introduction

Of the worldwide 72 species of the family Pardaliscidae, so far only seven species are known from New Zealand. These include five of the known 22 genera to date: *Arculfia* Barnard, 1961, *Halice* Boeck, 1871, *Halicoides* Walker, 1896, *Pardaliscoides* Stebbing, 1888 and *Princaxelia* Dahl, 1959 (Webber *et al.* 2010; Horton & De Broyer 2014). The genus *Nicippe* Bruzelius, 1859 currently consists of three species, *N. tumida* Bruzelius, 1859, which is considered to be cosmopolitan with records in all oceans except the Indian Ocean (see Karaman 1974), *N. unidentata* K.H. Barnard, 1932 from the Palmer Archipelago on the Antarctic Peninsula (Biswas, Coleman & Hendrycks 2009), and *N. buchi* Andres, 1975 from lava tubes off Lanzarote (Andres 1975). It has so far not been recorded around New Zealand or the wider south-western Pacific region.

A new species, *Nicippe rogeri* sp. nov. is described herein, and is the first record of the genus in this region. A single specimen has so far been identified from the central Chatham Rise, east of New Zealand, between 340–345 m.

A key to the four species of this genus is provided, based on morphological characters visible by stereoscope.

Material and Methods

The specimen was collected during the R/V *Rapuhia* 'Chatham Rise Benthic Biology' voyage in 1989. The material was examined and dissected in Wellington using a Leica MZ9.5 and drawn using a camera lucida attachment. Small appendages (mouthparts, uropods, telson) were temporarily mounted in glycerin and examined and drawn using a compound microscope (Nikon) fitted with a camera lucida. The body length of the specimen examined was measured by tracing the individual's mid-trunk lengths (tip of the rostrum to end of telson) using a camera lucida. All illustrations were inked electronically using a Wacom Intuous 3 Graphics Tablet and Adobe Illustrator following techniques as described by Coleman (2003, 2009).

The type material is deposited at the National Institute of Water and Atmospheric Research Invertebrate Collection at Wellington, New Zealand (NIWA).