

## Agathotanaididae (Crustacea: Tanaidacea) from the Angola Basin

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### Abstract

The family Agathotanaididae Lang, 1971 has a worldwide distribution, with only three species known from the Angola Basin: *Paranarthrura insignis* Hansen, 1913, *Paranarthrura intermedia* Kudinova-Pasternak, 1982 and *Paranarthrura angolensis* Guerrero-Kommritz, Schmidt & Brandt, 2002. Furthermore, three additional species are reported from the region: one each of *Agathotanais*, *Metagathotanais* and *Paragathotanais*. Agathotanaididae is represented by four of its five genera in this area.

**Key words:** Tanaidacea, Agathotanaididae, *Agathotanais*, *Metagathotanais*, *Paragathotanais*, *Paranarthrura*, Angola Basin, deep sea

### Introduction

The family Agathotanaididae was erected in 1971 by Karl Lang to contain a distinct group of Tanaidacea previously placed in the family Anarthruridae Lang, 1971. In his revision of the tanaidomorph families, Sieg (1986) reduced this family to a tribe Agathotanaini within the subfamily Anarthrurinae of the family Anarthruridae. Bird & Holdich (1988) revised the tribe Agathotanaini and found one new genus *Metagathotanais* and four new species for the North Atlantic Ocean (Table 2). Larsen & Wilson (2002), in their appraisal on tanaidomorph phylogeny, considered the Agathotanaini to be an apomorphic taxon and elevated it to family rank as the Agathotanaididae. The name Agathotanaididae as proposed by Lang (1971) was misspelled and was later corrected by Larsen & Wilson (2003) according to the ICZN rules.

In the North Atlantic Ocean, 13 species of the Agathotanaididae are currently known (Table 2). Four families and six species of Tanaidacea have been reported for the Angola Basin (Bamber 2000): *Sphyrapus malleolus* Norman & Stebbing, 1886 (Sphyrapidae),