

A revision of the North Atlantic amphipod genus *Normanion* (Crustacea: Amphipoda: Lysianassoidea)

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Abstract

Members of the lysianassoid genus *Normanion* have previously been difficult to identify, due to uncertainty regarding synonymies and validity among members of the taxon. Here, the genus is reviewed and a full description with illustrations is provided for the four eyed-species. Species are compared and synonymies are resolved.

Key words *Normanion*, Amphipoda, Lysianassoidea, Northeast Atlantic, Mediterranean

Introduction

Opis quadrimana, a species of lysianassoid amphipod, was described from the coast of Banffshire, Scotland, by Bate and Westwood (1868). This species later served as the type for the new genus *Normania* Boeck (1872). However, the latter was homonymous with a genus of Ostracod, and thus, Bonnier (1893) emended the name to *Normanion*.

Normanion is a small genus in which there are currently six described species. Species level identification is difficult owing to the superficial similarity of at least three of the species. As a result, these have been placed in the synonymy of each other by various authors at different times. The issue is further confused by the fact that the type of the genus, *N. quadrimanus*, as described and illustrated by Bate and Westwood, differs considerably from the type material deposited in the Natural History Museum, London (NHML). Bate and Westwood's illustration shows a denticulate palm on the gnathopod 1 propodus, and the authors state that "the propodos [sic] of the first pair (of gnathopods) is quadrate, the palm being...armed with a minutely denticulated thickened margin..." However, the type specimen from the NHML, as later redrawn by Lincoln (1979) has a