



Family Nototanaidae Sieg, 1976 and Typhlotanaidae Sieg, 1984

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Abstract

The deep-water tanaidaceans of the family Typhlotanaidae Sieg, 1984 were examined. In the material seven species were recognized. Three of them *Typhlotanais compactus* Kudinova-Pasternak, 1966, *Torquella angularis* (Kudinova-Pasternak, 1966), and *Peraeospinosus magnificus* (Kudinova-Pasternak, 1970) were already known to science. Four others were undescribed, but because only one of them, *Larsenotanais kamchatikus* n. sp, was represented by more than one specimen, is described in this paper. Additionally, redescription of the poorly known *T. angularis* and *T. compactus*, supplement this paper.

Key words: Tanaidacea, Typhlotanaidae, *Torquella*, *Larsenotanais*, *Typhlotanais*, Kurile-Kamchatka Trench, Japan Trench, abyssal.

Introduction

The family Nototanaidae was erected by Sieg (1976), who removed the genera therein from the family Paratanaidae Lang, 1949 based on the main characters of fusion of the dactylus and unguis in last three pair of pereopods, gradual reduction of the mouthparts in the males, and a reduced number of oostegites in females. Originally five genera were included in the family: *Metatanais* Shiino, 1952; *Nototanais* Richardson, 1906; *Tanaissus*, Norman & Scott, 1906; *Teleotanais* Lang, 1956, and *Androtanais* Sieg, 1976. The poorly defined and numerous genus *Typhlotanais* G.O. Sars 1882 was reclassified by Sieg to the other, newly created family Leptognathiidae Sieg, 1976 emphasizing its polyphyletic. This genus remained in the Leptognathiidae for the next ten years, although in a separate subfamily Typhlotanainae Sieg, 1984 (Sieg 1984, 1986a). This subfamily has been raised to the status of family two years later (Sieg 1986b), to include not only *Typhlotanais*, but also *Typhlotanaoides* Sieg, 1983; *Meromonakantha* Sieg, 1986b; *Peraeospinosus* Sieg, 1986a, and *Dimorphognathia* Sieg, 1986a.

Typhlotanaidae was synonymized with Nototanaidae by Larsen & Wilson (2002). According to their definition Nototanaidae were tanaids which have: three-articled antennule and six-articled antenna, they lack medial spiniform setae in the labium, they have regularly developed pereonite 1 and a marsupium formed of four pairs of oostegites, they lack articulated setae on pleonites, they are without a coxa on pereopods 4–6, and have the dactylus fused with unguis on these same pereopods. The authors included eleven genera in their redefined Nototanaidae *sensu* Larsen & Wilson, 2002, but their system has not been accepted by some authors (Błażewicz-Paszkowycz 2005; Bamber 2005) as well as in the present paper, where system proposed by Sieg is retained.

The life-history of typhlotanoids discovery north-west Pacific has come from work of Kudinova-Pasternak (1966, 1970, 1973, 1978). Studying tanaidaceans collected from a series of expeditions, she recognized eleven species: *Meromonakantha setosa* (Kudinova-Pasternak, 1966), *P. magnificus* (Kudinova-Pasternak,