



Report on some *Plesionika* Bate, 1888 and first record of *Stylopandalus* Coutière, 1905 (Caridea, Pandalidae) from Brazilian waters

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Abstract

The Brazilian expeditions REVIZEE Central - Fishery and Campos Basin Deep Sea Environmental Project collected samples from the southwestern Atlantic, between depths from 200 to 2200m. These expeditions sampled three *Plesionika* Bate, 1888 species: *Plesionika edwardsii* (Brandt, 1851), *P. ensis* (A. Milne Edwards, 1881) and *P. miles* (A. Milne Edwards, 1883). Besides that, one species of *Stylopandalus* Coutière, 1905, a genus never recorded on Brazilian coast before, was collected. These four pandalids were redescribed and figured.

Key words: Caridea, Pandalidae, *Plesionika*, *Stylopandalus*, Atlantic

Introduction

The caridean family Pandalidae Haworth, 1825 presently includes 21 genera (Holthuis, 1993; Komai & Chan, 2003). The pandalid genus *Plesionika* Bate, 1888 has a widespread occurrence all over the world, and is distributed on the shelf and slope. *Plesionika* species are benthic or nektobenthic, feeding on pelagic and benthic resources (Vafidis *et al.*, 2005). These species play an important ecological role within the various megabenthic assemblages, owing to their abundance and trophic relationships. They prey on mesopelagic, epibenthic and infaunal organisms and constitute a large part of the diet of demersal fish and cephalopods (Vafidis *et al.*, 2005).

From the Brazilian coast, three Pandalidae genera were recorded: *Heterocarpus* A. Milne Edwards, 1881; *Pandalus* Leach, 1814 and *Plesionika* Bate, 1888 (Ramos-Porto & Coelho, 1998). The genus *Plesionika* comprises at least 80 species (Chan & Yu, 1991; Chan & Chuang, 2002), 21 occur in Atlantic (Cruz & Fransén, 2004), being eight in the Western, seven in the Eastern and six at both sides. From the fourteen species that occur in the Western Atlantic, six were previously recorded in Brazilian waters: *Plesionika acanthonotus* (Smith, 1882); *P. edwardsii* (Brandt, 1851); *P. ensis* (A. Milne Edwards, 1881); *P. longicauda* (Rathbun, 1901); *P. martia* (A. Milne Edwards, 1883) and *P. miles* (A. Milne Edwards, 1883) (Ramos-Porto & Coelho, 1998; Cabral *et al.*, 2000). The record of *Plesionika martia* (deposited at Museu de Zoologia / Universidade de São Paulo (MZUSP)) and the records of *P. longicauda* and *P. miles* (deposited at Universidade Federal de Pernambuco (UFPE)) were confirmed by examination of the material. *Plesionika acanthonotus* was recorded in Brazilian waters by Bate (1888) (as *Nothocaris geniculatus* (A. Milne Edwards, 1883)), and this material was not examined. *Plesionika edwardsii* was only recorded by Cabral *et al.* (2000), but no description or figures were done, and this material is not available for examination, so the record was not confirmed.

Viana *et al.* (2007) recorded *Plesionika escatilis* (Stimpson, 1860) from Brazilian waters, but actually this species is not valid, being considered as a junior synonym of *Plesionika narval* (Fabricius, 1787) (Chan & Crosnier, 1991). Later on, Lemaitre & Gore (1988) resurrected *P. escatilis* as a valid species. However, the