



On some shallow-water Tanaidomorpha (Crustacea: Peracarida: Tanaidacea) of Chilean fjords, with description of a new species of *Zeuxoides* Sieg, 1980

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Abstract

Magellanic tanaidacean faunas have been mainly studied in the Magellan Strait and Beagle Channel, the latter restricted to bottoms deeper than 40m. As a result, the shallow rocky bottoms of the Magellanic fjords remain largely under-studied, and their tanaidacean diversity is poorly known. In this study, tanaidacean species sampled from shallow rocky bottoms of Chilean fjords are investigated, and morphological and taxonomic considerations included. A new species of the Tanaidae, *Zeuxoides troncosoi* sp. nov. is described. The genus *Leptocheilia* is recorded for the first time in Chile, and the distribution of *Pancoloides litoralis* is extended northwards. Specimens collected of *Pancoloides litoralis* and *Nototanais dimorphus* present morphological differences with previous descriptions, which are at present attributed to intraspecific variation derived from geographical isolation among populations, until sufficient material can be examined to determine what constitutes interspecific and intraspecific variation.

Key words: Subantarctic, Magellanic, Chile, taxonomy, *Zeuxoides*, *Nototanais*, *Pancoloides*, *Leptocheilia*

Introduction

The tanaidacean faunas of the Magellanic region were first studied by Monod (1926) who recorded “*Nototanais magellanicus*” and “*Tanais* sp. (*litoralis*?) Vanhöffen” (see synonymies below). Sieg (1986a) published an extensive taxonomic inventory and described several new species on the basis of specimens from the Magellan Strait, collected in the expeditions on the RV *Hero* between 1961 and 1982. Later, Schmidt & Brandt (2001a and b) updated Sieg’s species list after the joint Chilean-Italian-German project “Joint Magellan” campaign (1994), focusing on deeper waters (40–1279 m) of the Beagle Channel. As a result, the shallow rocky bottoms of most of the Magellanic fjords remain largely under-studied (especially those north of the Magellan Strait), and their tanaidacean diversity is poorly known.

The specimens used for this study came from the Bernardo O’Higgins National Park (henceforward BONP). In 2010, a sampling effort was carried out on a number of fjords within the BONP, with the objective of an ecological and faunistic characterization of their shallow, rocky bottoms. An examination of the tanaidacean specimens has led to the description of a new tanaidomorphan species, and the observation of morphological variations in some known species.

Materials & methods

BONP is situated on the Chilean Magellanic region between 47°56’–51°36’S and 73°04’–75°41’W. Its coast comprises a network of countless channels and fjords that extends along more than 400 km of the Pacific coast (Aldea *et al.*, in press).