



Article

***Coboldus chazaroi*, a new species of iphimeriid amphipod (Amphipoda, Gammaridea, Iphimeriidae) from a submarine cave, north Cuba**

MANUEL ORTIZ¹, IGNACIO WINFIELD^{1,3} & CARLOS VARELA²

¹Laboratorio de Crustáceos, Facultad de Estudios Superiores Iztacala, UNAM. Av. de los Barrios 1, Los Reyes Iztacala, Tlalnepantla, Estado de México. C.P. 54090

²Avenida 21, Número 3605 e/36 y 42, Municipio Playa, Ciudad de la Habana, Cuba. C.P. 11300

³Corresponding author. E-mail: ignacioc@unam.mx

Abstract

The amphipods of *Coboldus* are considered as antipolar members of iphimeriids with loss of a maxilla 1 palp article 2. A new amphipod species of the genus *Coboldus* (Family Iphimeriidae) collected from soft bottom in a submarine cave, Northern Cuba, is described. *Coboldus chazaroi* **sp. nov.**, differs from all other known species by the following characters: pereonal dorsal processes bifid and equal in length, coxa 1 ventrally acute and bifid, article 5 of gnathopod 2 longer than 6, dactylus longer than palm, posterior margin of pleonal epimeron 3 with 3 teeth, mandibular palp article 2 with 1 sub-distal plumose seta, molar poorly developed with 1 basal seta, lacinia mobilis rectangular and finely serrate.

Key words: Peracarida, Amphipoda, *Coboldus*, new species, Cuba

Resumen

Los anfípodos del género *Coboldus* son caracterizados como organismos antipolares de los anfípodos ifimédidos con la pérdida del artejo 2 del palpo de maxila 1. En el presente trabajo se describen una especie nueva de anfípodo del género *Coboldus* (Familia Iphimeriidae) recolectada en fondos blandos de una cueva submarina del litoral norte de Cuba. *Coboldus chazaroi* **n. sp.**, se diferencia de todas las especies por las siguientes características: procesos pereonales dorsales bífidos e iguales en longitud, coxa 1 ventralmente aguda y bífida, artejo 5 del gnatópodo 2 más largo que el 6, dactylus más largo que palma, margen posterior de epímero 3 con 3 dientes, artejo 2 del palpo mandibular con una seta plumosa subdistal, molar poco desarrollado con una seta basal, lacinia mobilis rectangular y aserrada finamente.

Palabras clave: Peracarida, Amphipoda, *Coboldus*, especie nueva, Cuba

Introduction

The number of described species of marine amphipod of Cuba has increased over the last years with the collection of submarine samples from littoral ecosystems. Biological samples of several gammarid amphipods of the family Iphimeriidae were recently obtained, including specimens of a new species described in this paper.

Iphimeriids mainly inhabit polar waters with decreased species richness towards temperate and tropical latitudes (Barnard & Karaman 1991). Coleman and Lowry (2006), on a worldwide scale, documented 49 polar and 47 subpolar species, 11 species for the Mediterranean Sea, five species for the European-Scandinavian coasts, and a smaller number of species for tropical environments.

Coboldus, one of 15 genera of Iphimeriidae, is characterized as antipolar iphimeriids with loss of a maxilla 1 palp article 2. It includes five nominal species: *C. hedgpethi* (J.L. Barnard, 1969); *C. nitior* Krapp-Schickel, 1974; *C. laetifucatus* Just, 1990; *C. mberensis* Lowry & Myers, 2003, and recently described, *C. orientalis* Ren, 2012, each one collected from California, the Mediterranean Sea, the Caribbean Sea, New Caledonia, and Hainan, China.