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**A new species of *Siphonoecetes* Krøyer, 1845 *Siphonoecetes (Centraloecetes) bulborostrum* sp. nov. (Crustacea, Amphipoda, Ischyroceridae) from the western Mediterranean, coast of Iberian Peninsula**

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**Abstract**

An undescribed species of *Siphonoecetes* Krøyer, 1845 was found on Mediterranean coast of Iberian Peninsula. It was collected at the depth of 10 and 15 m near Alicante. Though it was previously found in Chafarinas Islands, this new species was not named and fully described. In the present paper, *Siphonoecetes (Centraloecetes) bulborostrum* sp. nov. is described. The species belongs to *Centraloecetes* subgenus, since it possesses bulbous ventroapical projection on peduncle of uropod 1 in males and a row of long pectinate setae on distal margin of peduncle of uropod 3. *Siphonoecetes (Centraloecetes) bulborostrum* sp. nov. (Crustacea, Amphipoda, Ischyroceridae) is easily distinguishable from the other *Siphonoecetes* reported in Iberian Mediterranean coast by presence of bulbous subrostral projection.

**Key words:** Corophiida, Siphonoecetini, sp. nov., amphipod, Spain, soft-bottoms

**Introduction**

Siphonoecetini Just, 1983 are benthic amphipods that occupied soft bottoms from 0 to 300 meters' depth, where they inhabit self-constructed tubes or gastropods shells, calcareous polychaetes tubes or other structures (Just 1983). They have worldwide distribution, with 18 genera and 51 named species (Just 1988, 2012; Myers 1995).

*Siphonoecetes* Krøyer, 1845 is the only genus of siphonoecetines presented in Mediterranean fauna. This genus is comprised of three different subgenera, of which *Centraloecetes* and *Siphonoecetes* are recorded in Mediterranean. Until now, four species have been reported from Iberian Mediterranean coast: *Siphonoecetes (Siphonoecetes) sabatieri* de Rouville, 1894; *Siphonoecetes (Centraloecetes) dellavallei* Stebbing, 1899; *Siphonoecetes (Centraloecetes) kroyeranus* Bate, 1856, and *Siphonoecetes (Centraloecetes) neapolitanus* Schiecke, 1979.

Studying benthos communities along Alicante coast (East Spanish coast), an undescribed species of the genus *Siphonoecetes* was found. Though it was previously found in Chafarinas Island, the Alboran Sea of the coast of Morocco, it was not completely described and named (Martí 1996). This species belongs to *Centraloecetes* subgenus, since it possesses bulbous ventroapical projection on peduncle of uropod 1 in males and a row of long pectinate setae on distal margin of peduncle of uropod 3 (Just 1983). This *Siphonoecetes (Centraloecetes)* species is named and fully described in the present paper. A key to the species of *Siphonoecetes* found on the Mediterranean coast of Spain is provided.

**Material and methods**

The specimens were collected during sampling surveys carried out in winter and summer 2004–2012. All 197 specimens were collected using a square box (22.5 x 22.5 cm) by SCUBA diving at depth from 10 to 15 m in six different stations (Fig. 1).

Stations correspond to an area with a high coverage of dead *Posidonia oceanica* rhizomes (del-Pilar-Ruso &

- U2 peduncle distal margin comb-toothed ..... 5
- 5. U2 inner ramus stout and less than 2/3 length of outer ..... *S. neapolitanus*
- U2 inner ramus more than 2/3 length of outer ..... *S. kroyeranus*

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