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Platycuma bamberconfabulor* sp. nov. (Crustacea: Cumacea: Nannastacidae) from Antarctica, with a note on the gut of *Platycuma

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Abstract

Platycuma bamberconfabulor sp. nov. is based on a specimen from the Ross Sea. The species can be distinguished from the other species in the genus through the combination of a laterally expanded and somewhat dorsoventrally flattened carapace, anterior margin of the carapace excavate in dorsal view, uropod peduncles less than twice as long as pleonite 6, and subequal pleonites 4 and 5.

Key words: Nannastacidae, *Platycuma*, Antarctic

Introduction

The genus *Platycuma* was established by Calman (1905) for a species of cumacean that was unusual in having a very broad and depressed carapace, and also for having the gut long and coiled. Coincident with the coiled gut, the gut caeca were either very small or non-existent, and the heart was compacted into a small organ with only one pair of ostia. To date, seven species are described, *P. candidum* Jones, 1984, *P. hessleri* Jones, 1973, *P. holti* Calman, 1905, *P. japonicum* Akiyama, 2009, *P. lineata* Mühlenhardt-Siegel, 2005a, *P. sandersi* Jones, 1973, and *P. triangularis* Mühlenhardt-Siegel, 2005b, all living in the deep Atlantic except for *P. japonicum*, taken off Honshu, Japan. The new species is the first record of *Platycuma* from the Antarctic, and is the shallowest record at 360 m, while the other species are known from 688–5422 m.

Material and Methods

The holotype was temporarily mounted in a 95% glycerin/ 5% ethanol solution and dissected to the maxilliped 1. Gut morphology, mandibles and maxillae were not illustrated in order to avoid destroying the carapace morphology, as the holotype is the only specimen currently known. The specimen was collected by the New Zealand National Institute for Water and Atmospheric Research (NIWA) during cruise TAN 0802 in 2008 on the RV *Tangaroa*.

Systematics

Family Nannastacidae Bate, 1866

Genus *Platycuma* Calman, 1905

***Platycuma bamberconfabulor* sp. nov.**

(Figs 1 & 2)

Material examined. Holotype - subadult male (NIWA 80709) Ross Sea, Antarctica, RV *Tangaroa* cruise TAN 0802, Station 88, 76.6097°S, 176.7560°E, 360 m, 17 February 2008.

Diagnosis. Carapace laterally expanded and somewhat dorsoventrally flattened, anterior margin excavate in dorsal view, dorsal margin sinuous in lateral view, uropod peduncles less than twice length of pleonite 6.