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A review of the Munidopsidae Ortmann, 1898 (Decapoda, Galatheoidea) in Chilean waters, including new records for the Southeastern Pacific

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Abstract

The information about the family Munidopsidae in Chile is scarce and sparse, making identification of new material difficult. Due to this we lack precise information about the number and accurate distribution of Chilean species. Recent expeditions to Chile have collected specimens of this group, allowing an exhaustive review of the registers and collections in four museums in the country. A total of 93 specimens from six expeditions were analyzed, belonging to twelve species, of which five represent first records for the Chilean waters. The family in Chile is now composed by 19 bathyal and abyssal species; three belong to the genus *Galacantha* and 16 to *Munidopsis*. Only three species have distributions restricted to southeastern Pacific waters (*M. cochlearis*, *M. follirostris* and *M. opalescens*). Three other species are widely distributed along the eastern Pacific from Alaska or from Oregon to Chile (*M. aspera*, *M. quadrata* and *M. verrucosus*). No relationships were observed between the extensive geographical distribution of species and the bathymetric distribution.

Key words: Munidopsidae, new records, SE Pacific, Chile

Introduction

The family Munidopsidae Ortmann, 1898, has been recently accepted the taxonomic hierarchy (Ahyong *et al.* 2009; Ahyong *et al.* 2011; Bracken-Grisson *et al.* 2013); it was originally proposed as a subfamily by Ortmann (1898), and accepted by Baba & Williams (1998), but later placed in the synonymy of Galatheidae (Martin & Davis 2001; Baba 2005; Baba *et al.* 2008).

To date, seven genera or sub-genera have been proposed, with some or all of these long synonymized with *Munidopsis* Whiteaves, 1874 (i.e., *Anoplomotus* Smith, 1883; *Bathyankyristes* Alcock and Anderson, 1894; *Elasmonotus* A. Milne-Edwards, 1880; *Galacantha* A. Milne-Edwards, 1880; *Galathodes* Milne-Edwards, 1880; *Galathopsis* Henderson, 1885 and *Orophorynchus* A. Milne-Edwards, 1880). Recently, the genus *Galacantha* was reestablished (Macpherson 2007), and later a molecular analysis hints that good prospects exist for a natural subdivision of *Munidopsis* into several genera (Ahyong *et al.* 2010, 2011).

The genus *Munidopsis* is represented by about 250 species worldwide, mainly in waters deeper than 100 m (Baba 2005; Ahyong *et al.* 2011; Hendrickx & Ayon-Parente 2013; Macpherson 2014). In the Eastern Pacific region, this genus is represented by 31 species, 14 of which are recorded from Southeastern Pacific waters (Haig 1955; Luke 1977; Retamal 2000; Hendrickx 2003; Hendrickx & Ayon-Parente 2013). Information about the family in the southeastern Pacific is limited to a diverse spread of literature, including checklists with no further information (Haig, 1955; Retamal, 2000; Retamal & Moyano, 2010; Moscoso, 2012).

To date, 14 species of this group have been cited from Chilean waters (Haig 1955; Bahamonde 1963; Khodkina 1973; Ambler 1980; Retamal 2000; Wicksten 1989; Hendrickx 2003), most constituting just single records.

No exhaustive review of this group in Chile has been performed to date. Here, we analyze both the literature