

**Species of the Genus *Kamaka* (Crustacea: Amphipoda:  
Kamakidae) from Japan: *Kamaka biwae* and  
*K. morinoi* sp. nov.**

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Two species of the genus *Kamaka* (Crustacea: Amphipoda: Kamakidae) are described from Japan. *Kamaka biwae* Ueno, 1943 occurred only in Lake Biwa, Shiga Prefecture, and the morphological characters and coloration of the present material agree with Ueno's description except for the shape of coxa 5. *Kamaka morinoi* sp. nov. was collected from brackish and freshwater areas in Miyagi, Fukushima, Ibaraki, Tottori, and Shimane Prefectures. Its morphological features closely resemble those of *K. biwae*, but *K. morinoi* can be distinguished from *K. biwae* by the following points: (1) higher numbers of plumose setae on the posterior margins of pereopods 5–7, (2) smaller maximal body length, and (3) male coloration (especially in coxa 1). The distributions of the two species suggest that *K. biwae* speciated from *K. morinoi* or that they share a common ancestor.

**Key Words:** *Kamaka*, new species, Kamakidae, Amphipoda, Crustacea, Japan, speciation.

### Introduction

The genus *Kamaka* was established by Dershavin (1923) with *K. kuthae* Dershavin, 1923 as its type species. Afterwards five species of *Kamaka* were described, including *K. biwae* Ueno, 1943, *K. derzhavini* Gurjanova, 1951, *K. palmata* Dang, 1968, *K. taditadi* Thomas and Barnard, 1991, and *K. littoralis* Ren, 2006. In addition, Myers and Lowry (2003) suggested that *Natarajphotis manieni*, mentioned as a new genus and species from South India in the unpublished thesis of Peethambaran (1980) (Lyla *et al.* 1998), might be a species of *Kamaka*, although this name is unavailable. *Kamaka* is widely distributed in the Indo-West Pacific, from Kamchatka (*K. kuthae* and *K. derzhavini*) to Papua New Guinea (*K. taditadi*), and in habitats with a broad range of salinities, e.g., freshwater (*K. biwae* and *K. palmata*), freshwater and brackish water (*K. kuthae*), and seawater (*K. derzhavini*, *K. taditadi*, and *K. littoralis*). In Japan, the following two species have been recorded: *Kamaka kuthae* from Hokkaido (Iwasa and Nagata 1965; Uéno 1973) and *K. biwae* from Lake Biwa (Ueno 1943).

During my survey of the amphipod fauna in Japan, four species of the genus *Kamaka*, including two undescribed species, were obtained. In the present paper, I will describe two closely related species, *K. biwae* and a new species *K. morinoi*.