

**Redescription of a Subterranean Amphipod,
Pseudocrangonyx shikokunis (Crustacea: Amphipoda:
Pseudocrangonyctidae) from Japan**

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Pseudocrangonyx shikokunis Akatsuka and Komai, 1922, a poorly known subterranean amphipod, is redescribed and illustrated in detail based on the syntypes from Tokushima Prefecture and four additional specimens from Hyogo Prefecture, Japan. Newly found diagnostic features and morphological variation of the species are discussed.

Key Words: Crustacea, Amphipoda, Pseudocrangonyctidae, *Pseudocrangonyx shikokunis*, redescription, groundwater fauna.

Introduction

The amphipod genus *Pseudocrangonyx* Akatsuka and Komai, 1922 is currently composed of 14 species that are distributed exclusively in groundwaters of Japan, the Korean Peninsula, eastern China, and the Far East of Russia (Uéno 1966; Holsinger 1989; Labay 2001; Hou and Li 2003; Sidorov 2006). Holsinger (1989), who tentatively rediagnosed the genus, pointed out that a full revision of the genus was required because of taxonomic problems derived from the insufficiency of earlier descriptions of some species.

Recently, several specimens representing *Pseudocrangonyx* were collected from a well at Tatsuno, Hyogo Prefecture, western Japan. Inspection of them revealed that they are assignable to *P. shikokunis* Akatsuka and Komai, 1922. Since the incomplete original description of *P. shikokunis* by Akatsuka and Komai (1922), only Uéno (1927) has provided a brief account, adding a little information on the morphology. Therefore, we carefully examined the newly obtained specimens and compared them with the syntypes deposited in the National Museum of Nature and Science, Tokyo (NSMT). In this study, the species is redescribed and illustrated in detail.