

***Vemakylindrus chernyshevi*, a New Species of Cumacean  
(Crustacea: Peracarida: Diastylidae) from  
the Northwestern Pacific**

**Stella V. Vassilenko<sup>1</sup> and Ludmila A. Tzareva<sup>2</sup>**

<sup>1</sup> *Zoological Institute, Russian Academy of Sciences, St.-Petersburg 199034, Russia*

*E-mail: malacostraca@zin.ru*

<sup>2</sup> *Far Eastern State Biosphere Marine Reserve, Far Eastern Branch,*

*Russian Academy of Sciences,*

*Palchevsky Str., 17, Vladivostok 690041, Russia*

*E-mail: marreserve@mail.ru*

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A new species of diastylid cumacean, *Vemakylindrus chernyshevi*, is described on the basis of material collected from east of Honshu, Japan, at a depth of 504 m. It appears closest to *V. multiuncifer* Gamô, 1998 and *V. hystricosa* Gerken, 2002. From *V. multiuncifer*, the new species is distinguished especially by the direction of the pseudorostrum, the armament of the carapace, the shape of the antennule, and the armament of the telson. The length of the pseudorostrum, the shape of the spines on the carapace, and the structure of the telson and pereopods serve to differentiate the new species from *V. hystricosa*.

**Key Words:** Crustacea, Cumacea, Diastylidae, *Vemakylindrus*, new species, off Japan.

### Introduction

The diastylid genus *Vemakylindrus* Băcescu, 1961 was originally established as a subgenus of *Makrokylindrus* Stebbing, 1912, and later Day (1980) elevated the taxon to a full genus. At present the genus consists of 15 species. They occur mainly at depths of 500 to 3718 m, although there are shallower records from depths of 63 m and 135–143 m. At the deeper extreme, there is a recent record of a species of *Vemakylindrus* from the Angola Basin in the southeastern Atlantic at a depth of 5395 m (Mühlenhardt-Siegel 2005). Representatives of this genus are distributed in various regions of the world Ocean. Equal numbers of species are found in the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans. Of great interest are the Pacific species of *Vemakylindrus* described from Suruga Bay (Gamô 1998), because this area is located near the collection site of our new species.

As the result of our taxonomic studies of the collections of cumaceans made during cruises of RV *Vityaz*, three new species have been described so far (Vassilenko and Tsareva 2004). In the present work, a new species of *Vemakylindrus*, *V. chernyshevi*, is described based on material from off northeastern Honshu, Japan.

The type specimens were collected with an “Ocean” grab with a 0.25 m<sup>2</sup> opening during cruise 52 of RV *Vityaz* in 1972 and preserved in 70% ethanol. They are