

Tanaidaceans from Brunei III. A New Genus and Two New Species of Shallow-water Sphyrapodids (Crustacea: Peracarida: Tanaidacea) from the South China Sea

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A new genus of sphyrapodid tanaidaceans, *Poligarida*, represented by the two new species *P. beni* and *P. keriakis*, is described from samples off the coast of Brunei. With no mandibular palp, this genus falls within the subfamily Sphyrapodinae. With a normal sphyrapodid antennule bearing a two-segmented accessory flagellum, and with no squama on the antenna, it is closest to *Ansphyrapus*, but is distinguished from that genus by lacking the complex setation of the pereopods and in having an elongate second article of the antennal peduncle. The latter feature is more characteristic of the Pseudosphyrapodinae, casting some doubt on the status of these two subfamilies. *Poligarida* gen. nov. is unique in the family in lacking a maxillular palp, and in having an unusual setose mandibular molar. *Sphyrapus stebbingi* Richardson, 1911 is tentatively reassigned to *Pseudosphyrapus*, and an identification key to the genera of the Sphyrapodidae is presented.

Key Words: Brunei, Apseudomorpha, Sphyrapodidae, *Poligarida*.

Introduction

The tanaidacean fauna of the waters of the South China Sea off Borneo is poorly known. Dana (1849) recorded one species from this general region—*Paratanais elongatus* (Dana, 1849) from the Sulu Sea, while Bamber and Sheader (2003) described *Pakistanapseudes goofi* Bamber and Sheader, 2003 from off Sabah, and Bamber and Sheader (2005) recorded a further nine species off Sabah, including four new taxa, and noted a commonality of the fauna in this area with that of the waters off Viet Nam, as described by Shiino (1963). Tanaidaceans from the waters off Brunei were first studied specifically by Bamber (1999), who discovered four new apseudomorph species, recorded three of the species found off Viet Nam by Shiino (1963), and rediscovered *Paratanais elongatus*. Bamber *et al.* (2012) found two additional new apseudomorph species and another of Shiino's (1963) species in two shallow inshore samples from Brunei.

As a result of these discoveries, and in the light of the apparently high diversity of tanaidaceans in these sandy shelf sediments, a larger selection of samples from the shallow seabed off Brunei has been examined to determine their tanaidacean material. This material is being analyzed by family. The present paper, the third addressing the tanaidacean fauna of Brunei waters, describes the sphyrapodid species found.

Sphyrapodids are normally deep-water species, although

the two species of the genus *Sphyrapoides* Guțu and Iliffe, 1998 occur in shelf waters of the West Indies, and a few species of *Pseudosphyrapus* Guțu, 1980 and *Ansphyrapus* Guțu, 2001 show polar emergence to shallower waters in the Arctic.

The two new species described below, representing a new genus, are thus unusual in occupying a shallow-water habitat. They are also the first sphyrapodid species to be recorded in the Indo-West Pacific outside Japanese waters, although again those Japanese species are from deep water (>380 m, see Kakui *et al.* 2007; Kakui and Kajihara 2011).

Materials and Methods

The samples were collected using either a 0.1 m² van Veen grab or a box-corer, fixed in 5% formalin, and stained with Rose Bengal. Samples were sieved through a 0.5 mm mesh. Depths of the samples examined ranged from 0 to 90 m. Sediments were all sandy, although full granulometric analysis is not available.

Morphological terminology and measurement techniques are as described by Bamber *et al.* (2012). Type material is lodged in the collections of the Natural History Museum, London (BMNH).