

Redescription of *Sternomoera moneronensis* (Crustacea: Amphipoda: Gammaridea) from Moneron Island, the Russian Far East

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Sternomoera moneronensis Labay, 1997, a poorly known freshwater amphipod, is redescribed based on newly collected specimens from its type locality, Moneron Island in the northern Sea of Japan. Certain inaccuracies of the original description, viz., the shape of the antennal sinus of the head and the number of sternal gills on the ventral margin of pereonite 7, are corrected.

Key Words: *Sternomoera moneronensis*, Amphipoda, taxonomy, redescription, Moneron Island.

Introduction

The genus *Sternomoera* Barnard and Karaman, 1982 is known from fresh waters of Japan and Russia (Tattersall 1922; Uéno 1933; Stephensen 1944; Kuribayashi *et al.* 1994, 1996; Labay 1997; Sidorov 2006; Ishimaru 2011). *Sternomoera* is morphologically characterized by well developed eyes, sternal gills on pereonites 2–7, a one-articulate accessory flagellum on antenna 1, presence of coxal gill 7, and a telson longer than wide and cleft for about 70% of its length (Kuribayashi *et al.* 1996). The following five species have been described: *S. japonica* (Tattersall, 1922) from Honshu, Japan; *S. yezoensis* (Uéno, 1933) from Hokkaido, Japan; *S. hayamensis* (Stephensen, 1944) from Honshu; *S. rhyaca* Kuribayashi *et al.*, 1996 from Hokkaido and Honshu; and *S. moneronensis* Labay, 1997 from Moneron Island, Russia. *Sternomoera hayamensis* was synonymized with *S. japonica* in the taxonomic revision of *Sternomoera* by Kuribayashi *et al.* (1996) and only four valid species are currently recognized.

Recently we had an opportunity to examine specimens of *S. moneronensis* of both sexes collected from its type locality (Fig. 1). Moneron Island is located off southwest approximately 50 km of Sakhalin Island. Five species of Amphipoda and one species of Isopoda are recorded from this island (Sidorov 2006). After detailed observation of the newly collected specimens, we realized that *S. moneronensis* was erroneously described in respect to some important diagnostic characters. In this paper, we redescribe *S. moneronensis* based on the newly obtained specimens and discuss the inaccuracies of the original description.

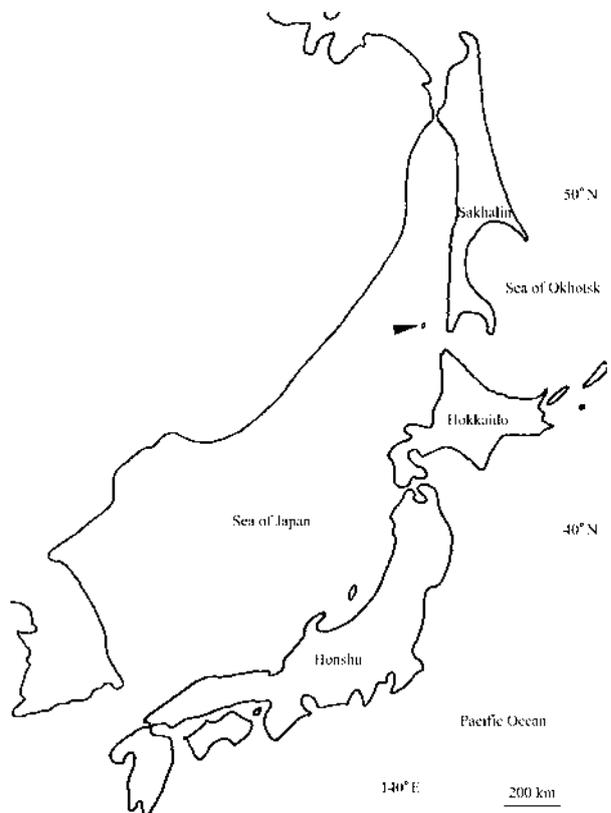


Fig. 1. Study area. Arrow head indicates Moneron Island at which *S. moneronensis* was collected in this study.