Two New Records of Anisogammarid Amphipods
(Crustacea: Amphipoda: Gammaridea) from Japan

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Barrowgammarus macginitiei (Shoemaker, 1955) and Spasskogammarus spasskii (Bulycheva, 1952) are reported based on specimens from Hokkaido, northern Japan. These are the first records of these two genera in Japan. The single specimen referred to B. macginitiei differs from the original description in having a relatively short antenna 1, distally tapering coxa 1, long setae on the merus and carpus of pereopods 3 and 4, long, slender setae on the ventral margins of epimeral plates 2 and 3, marginal setae on the rami of uropods 1 and 2, a small protuberance on urosomite 3, and a single accessory lobe on the coxal gill of pereopod 6. The Japanese specimens of S. spasskii generally agree with the original description except for the presence of a few slender setae on the inner margin of the outer ramus of uropod 3.

Key Words: Crustacea, Amphipoda, Anisogammaridae, Barrowgammarus macginitiei, Spasskogammarus spasskii, taxonomy, new record, Japan.

Introduction

The family Anisogammaridae accommodates 11 genera that are distributed along the North Pacific rim, including the Bering Sea and adjacent waters (e.g., Tzvetkova 1975; Bousfield 1979; Barnard and Barnard 1983). The estuarine and coastal marine anisogammaridean fauna is diverse and forms an important part of the inshore food-energy web (Bousfield 1979).

Barrowgammarus and Spasskogammarus are small genera in the Anisogammaridae, comprising one and two species respectively (Bousfield 1979). All are marine benthic dwellers known mostly from shallow waters.

I have been studying the anisogammarid fauna of Japanese waters since 2001 (Tomikawa and Morino 2003; Tomikawa et al. 2003, 2006). In the course of these studies, the little-known anisogammarid species Barrowgammarus macginitiei (Shoemaker, 1955), originally described from a beach at Point Barrow, Alaska, and Spasskogammarus spasskii (Bulycheva, 1952), originally described from De-Kastri Bay, Sea of Japan, were collected in the coastal waters of Hokkaido, northern Japan. Since the original descriptions of B. macginitiei and S. spasskii were incomplete, I here present detailed descriptions of the two taxa on the basis of the new specimens from Hokkaido.