



A new species of *Paradella* Harrison & Holdich, 1982 (Crustacea: Isopoda: Sphaeromatidae) from Baja California, Mexico, with a key to East Pacific species

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Abstract

Paradella garsonorum sp. nov., from the high intertidal of Baja California, Mexico, is described and figured, the fourth species from the East Pacific region, the third species from the Gulf of California. It is distinguished from other species of the genus by both uropodal rami having sinuate lateral and mesial margins that provide a notably attenuated appearance to the male uropodal rami, and the pleon with upturned lateral margins. The generic diagnosis is revised, known species in the genus are listed and a key to the eastern Pacific species provided.

Key words: Crustacea, Sphaeromatidae, Isopoda, *Paradella*, taxonomy, Baja California, Mexico, East Pacific

Introduction

Paradella is a small genus of 14 named species, with a wide distribution in warm–temperate and tropical waters of the tropical Pacific Ocean, Indian Ocean and Caribbean. Recent shallow-water collections in Baja California, Mexico, discovered a new species of *Paradella* (Bruce & Wetzer 2004) and further collections as well as material held over from previous collections revealed the presence of another species of *Paradella* that is here described.

There is a group of clearly related species that occurs in the tropical and temperate East Pacific, these species being *Paradella diana*e (Menzies, 1962), *P. setosa* (Glynn, 1968), *P. tiffany* Bruce & Wetzer, 2004, and *P. garsonorum* sp. nov. These species share a similar ornamentation of pereonite 7, the pleon and pleotelson, and characteristically upturned flanges to the lateral margins of the pleon. One of these species, *Paradella diana*e, has been widely translocated by international shipping to ports around the world, and the original distribution of that species remains uncertain.

Methods

Terminology, measurements and descriptions follow Bruce (e.g. 1997, 2003). The generic description was produced using a DELTA (Dallwitz *et al.* 1997) using the sphaeromatid generic data set that is under development.

Abbreviations: LACM—Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County; CNCR—Colección Nacional de Crustáceos, Instituto de Biología, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México; PMS—plumose marginal setae; RS—robust seta/e.

Paradella Harrison & Holdich, 1982

Paradella Harrison & Holdich, 1982: 99.—Harrison, 1984: 386.—Harrison & Ellis, 1991: 943.—Kensley & Schotte, 1989: 223.—Storey, 2002: 139.—Bruce & Wetzer, 2004: 2.

Type species: *Paradella octaphymata* Harrison & Holdich, 1982, by original designation.