



Revalidation of *Chlamydopleon aculeatum* Ortmann, 1893, and its consequences for the taxonomy of Gastrosaccinae (Crustacea: Mysida: Mysidae) endemic to coastal waters of America

KARL J. WITTMANN

Abteilung für Ökotoxikologie, Zentrum für Public Health, Medizinische Universität Wien, Währinger Strasse 10, A-1090 Vienna, Austria. E-mail: karl.wittmann@meduniwien.ac.at

Abstract

A recent revision of burrowing mysid taxa in coastal waters on both sides of the American continent, published in this journal by Heard and Price (2006), necessitates a redescription of *Chlamydopleon aculeatum* Ortmann, 1893 based on type material from the Tocantins estuary on the coast of Brazil. A lectotype is designated and this taxon is revalidated at the species and genus level. The genus *Chlamydopleon* Ortmann, 1893 gains precedence over the junior synonym *Bowmaniella* Heard & Price, 2006. The West Atlantic species *Gastrosaccus dissimilis* Coifmann, 1937 is redescribed based on the types from the coast of Brazil. Regional morphological differences are evident in additional material from 24°S to 34°N. This species and the East Pacific *Bowmaniella* (*Coifmanniella*) *banneri* Băcescu, 1968 are transferred to the genus *Chlamydopleon*, using the new combinations *C. dissimile* and *C. banneri*. A key to the acknowledged two genera and seven species of Gastrosaccinae with apically widened third male pleopod is given.

Key words: Gastrosaccinae, *Chlamydopleon*, *Bowmaniella*, synonymy, revision, taxonomy, West Atlantic, East Pacific

Introduction

Tattersall (1951) tentatively suggested a possible synonymy between the mysid species *Gastrosaccus dissimilis* Coifmann, 1937 and *Chlamydopleon aculeatum* Ortmann, 1893, and closed this discussion by conceding that “The matter can be settled only if the type specimen of *C. aculeatum* is available for examination. If it is not, then Ortmann’s name should be cancelled as the species is unrecognizable. If my suggestion should prove to be correct, then Ortmann’s specific name *aculeatum* will take precedence over *dissimilis*”. By contrast, Băcescu (1968) concluded that *C. aculeatum* may have “nothing in common” with *G. dissimilis*, and included the latter species into the subgenus *Bowmaniella* (*Coifmanniella*) described by him. Finally, Tattersall’s suggestion was recently addressed by Heard and Price (2006) upon description of a new genus with the same name *Bowmaniella*, when they claimed “Tattersall (1951) considered; however, because the description and illustration of *C. aculeatum* were so incomplete and its type apparently lost, he did not choose to formally synonymise the two species”.

No published facts are available about the fate of the types after they were sampled by the Plankton-Expedition der Humboldt-Stiftung in 1889 and described by Ortmann (1893). Upon request by the present author it was confirmed that the natural history museums of Berlin, Kiel, and Munich kept certain parts of the material sampled by this expedition. *C. aculeatum* was contained only in the Munich collection. The present contribution examines these specimens and related materials and discusses the necessary consequences for the taxonomy of Gastrosaccinae endemic to coastal waters of America.