

Research Notes

A First Report of *Heteropodarke heteromorpha* Hartmann-Schröder, 1962 (Polychaeta: Hesionidae) from California

Specimens of *Heteropodarke heteromorpha* Hartmann-Schröder, 1962, were taken during the course of several benthic studies throughout southern California. This is the first record of the genus from the northeastern Pacific Ocean; it is known also from Peru and New Caledonia. All material has been deposited in the Allan Hancock Foundation.

Heteropodarke Hartmann-Schröder, 1962 Emended

Type.—*H. heteromorpha* Hartmann-Schröder, 1962. Body small and thread-like. Prostomium rounded, with 4 eyes, 1 median and 2 lateral pseudoannulated to annulated antennae. Palpi smooth to pseudoannulated. Pharynx with distal papillae; no jaws. Number of tentacular cirri vary with size; up to 8 pairs. Parapodia sub-biramous; 1-2 thin notoaciculae at dorsal cirrophoral base. Dorsal cirri longer than parapodia, pseudoannulated to annulated. Ventral cirrus similar to dorsal cirrus. Anterior setae as thick composite falcigers with bidentate appendages accompanied by a single thin composite spiniger or capillary seta. Setae of median and posterior segments as composite falcigers with unidentate appendages.

Remarks.—With the addition of the subspecies, *H. heteromorpha africana* Hartmann-Schröder, 1974, and collection of Californian specimens, the original generic definition has been emended. Details include variation in structure of cephalic appendages, tentacular cirri number, and a more detailed account of setal morphology and distribution.

Heteropodarke heteromorpha Hartmann-Schröder, 1962 Figure 1, a-c

Heteropodarke heteromorpha Hartmann-Schröder, 1962:117-120, pl. 5, fig. 10; pl. 6, figs. 31-34. Laubier, 1967:95-97, fig. 1a-f.

Material examined.—Isla Santa, Peru, April, 1956, 2 paratypes; Huntington Beach, MBC Sta 1D, 8/75 (2) 9/72 (2); Los Angeles Harbor, MBC Sta 27a, 8/75 (2); Ormand Beach, MBC Sta C3, 1-76 (2); Velero Stations on Tanner Bank 24130, 1-76 (2); 24134, 1-72 (1); 24372, 2-76 (1); 24140, 1-76 (9). Velero Station 23189, 11-76 (1) on Santa Rosa Island and 24380, 2-76 (1) on Cortez Bank.

Diagnosis.—Body small, threadlike, up to 6 tentacular cirri; setal fascicles of anterior segments with five thick composite falcigers having bidentate appendages, plus a single very thin composite spiniger; median and posterior setae all unidentate composite falcigers.

Habitat.—All Californian specimens were taken from fine to coarse sand at depths of 3-98 m.

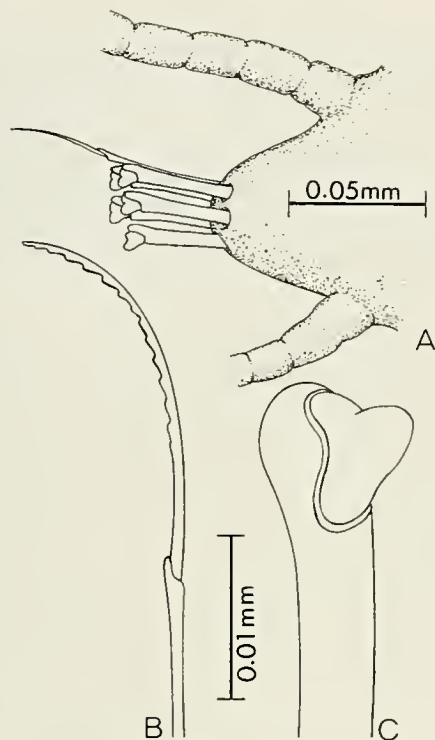


Fig. 1. *Heteropodarke heteromorpha*: a, Parapodium from setiger 18, lateral view; b, composite spiniger; c, composite falciger.

Remarks.—These specimens closely fit descriptions given by Hartmann-Schröder (1962) and Laubier (1967), especially in regard to the number, length and position of cephalic and tentacular structures, parapodial structure and general setal morphology and distribution.

Palps of the holotype were described as smooth, but those of Californian specimens are pseudoannulated, as were palpi of New Caledonia individuals (Laubier, 1967). Palps were missing from Peruvian paratypes.

A very thin composite spiniger accompanies each anterior fascicle of thick composite falcigers (Fig. 1a–c). Hartmann-Schröder mentioned the occasional appearance of very fine bristles among anterior segments which corresponds to this seta. Examination of paratypes showed that this seta was distributed as in Californian specimens.

The number of tentacular cirri is dependent on individual size and this variability has been discussed by Hartmann-Schröder (1962, 1974) and Laubier (1967). Large specimens of *H. heteromorpha* have up to 6 pairs of tentacular cirri, and *Heteropodarke heteromorpha africana* has up to 8 pairs. Variability of this character has been noted in other hesionid genera; Blake (1975) found juveniles of *Gyptis brevipalpa* to have 6 pairs of tentacular cirri whereas adults possess 8. This information suggests that keys to hesionids should be used carefully in regard to this character.

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The Species of *Plesionika* from California and Western Mexico (Natantia: Pandalidae)

Three genera of pandalid shrimp are known from offshore waters of southern California, U.S.A. and Baja California, Mexico: *Pandalopsis*, *Pandalus*, and *Plesionika*. Of these three, only *Plesionika* is characterized by possession of exopods on the third maxillipeds.

During sorting, cataloguing, and identification of shrimp in the collections of the Allan Hancock Foundation, specimens of *Plesionika beebei*, *Plesionika mexicana*, and *Plesionika martia semilaevis* were found. Extensions of the range of all three species are presented in this paper. *Plesionika mexicana* is reported for the first time from California. A key to the species in the eastern Pacific Ocean is provided.

Plesionika beebei Chace 1937

Plesionika beebei Chace 1937:114–115, fig. 2.

Previous records.—23 miles east by south of Tortuga Island, 13–20 miles north-east of San Ildefonso Island, Gorda Banks, Mexico; between 74 and 923 m (Chace, 1937).