A new Pycnogonid, Endeis holthuisi n.sp., from New Guinea

by

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During his carcinological explorations in New Guinea, Dr. L. B. HOLTHUIS of Leiden collected a single Pycnogonid. The little animal proved to be an undescribed species of the genus *Endeis*, which I propose to name, in honour of the collector:

Endeis holthuisi n.sp.

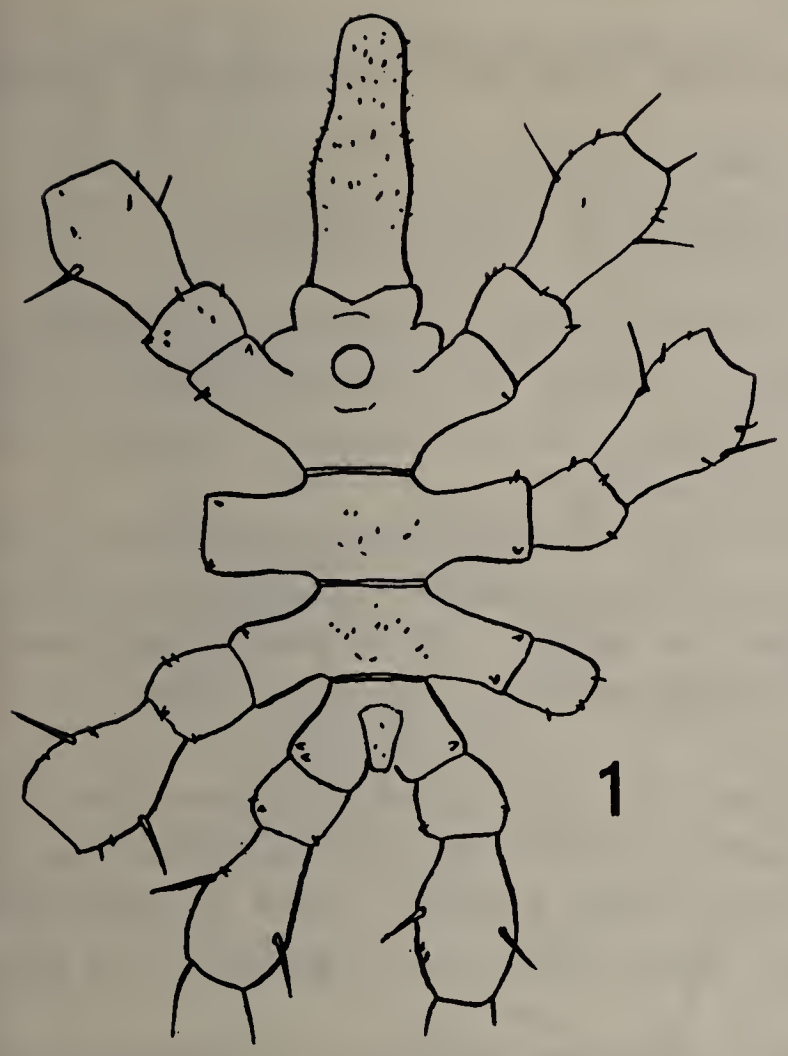
DESCRIPTION

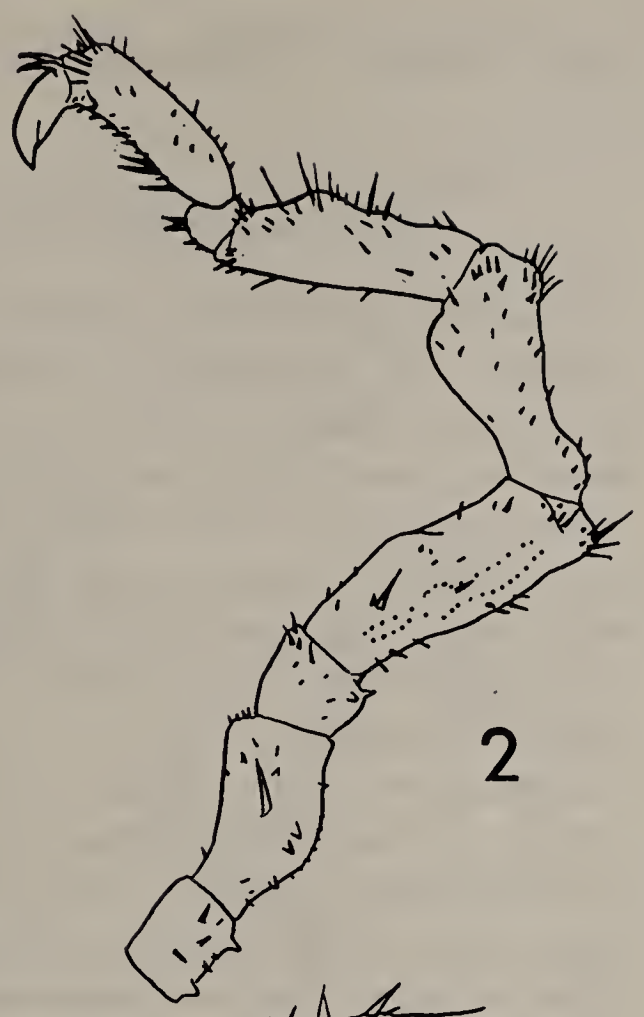
♂. Body and legs compact, robust. Trunk distinctly segmented. Lateral processes, separated by less than their own diameter, armed distally with 1 or 2 spiniform tubercles. Small spinules or spiniform tubercles also present on the dorsal surface of trunk segments 2 and 3. Proboscis of a typical *Endeis*-shape (more or less shuttle-shaped), provided with scattered spinules. Eye tubercle situated at a level with the anterior margin of the first lateral processes, low, conical, eyes light brown. Abdomen erected, shorter than the lateral process. A distinct collar, which is according to DOHRN, 1881, a rudiment of the palp, is present at the base of the proboscis.

No chelifores. Ovigers 7-segmented; segment 2 the longest; segment 4 and 5 subequal; segment 6 distinctly shorter than segment 5, armed at its upper margin with 4 recurved spines; segment 7 very short, more or less rectangular in outline, armed at the truncate tip with 5 recurved spines.

Legs short, spinose. Apart from numerous small spinules on all leg segments, big "needles" are situated at about the middle of coxa 2, at about a third of the femur, at the distal end of the femur and of tibia 1, at the upper surface of tibia 2, and at the extremity of the propodus. The long segments of the legs are all more or less humped or distorted. Tarsus wider than long, armed with a couple of spinules and 2 longer spines. Propodus heavy, straight; heel scarcely developed, provided with 3 big spines; sole with 5 shorter spines. The longer propodal spines have an indistinctly crenulated tip. The claw is very heavy, slightly over half the length of the propodus; its inner margin provided with a grasping edge, which is separated by a groove from the rest of the claw. Auxiliary claws are present, curved, and are about $^1/_3$ the length of the main claw. Cement gland pores obscurely visible, situated in two sinuous rows on the lateral surface of the femur; 16 to 18 pores were counted in each row.

REMARKS: The short and robust legs separate this species from all other members of the genus, which have slender to very slender legs. The only species having cement gland pores in more than 1 row is *E. flaccida* Calman, 1923, which differs from the new species in its slenderness, in the curved propodus and in the longer auxiliary claws.





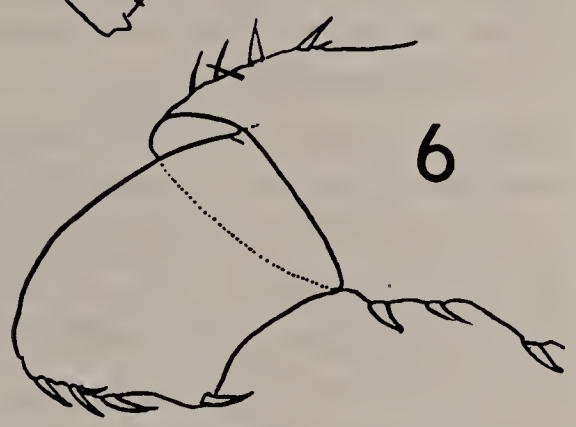


Fig. 1—6. *Endeis holthuisi* n.sp. (♂, holotype). 1. Trunk in dorsal view; 2. 2nd leg; 3. distal segments of 2nd leg; 4. ocular tubercle in lateral view; 5. oviger; 6. distal part of oviger

MEASUREMENTS OF THE HOLOTYPE (♂) in mm:

Length trunk (frontal margin collar to tip 4th lateral process) 1.65
Width across 2nd lateral processes 1.13
Length proboscis (in ventral view) 1.34

Second leg - coxa	1	0.33	tibia	1	0.85
„	2	0.56	„	2	0.85
„	3	0.40	tarsus		0.12
femur		0.85	propodus		0.71

MATERIAL:

1 ♂, holotype. Biak, New Guinea. Reef in front of the Royal Navy barracks, west of kampong Sorido. February 1955. Type in the Rijksmuseum van Natuurlijke Historie, Leiden.