

Two Species of *Koellikerina* Medusae (Cnidaria, Hydrozoa, Anthomedusae) from Japan

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Abstract We fully described two *Koellikerina* species from shallow waters in Japan with illustrations and photographs. *Koellikerina constricta* (Menon, 1932), bearing characteristic bell constriction, expands its distribution to Kuchinoerabu Island, Kagoshima Prefecture (northern limit). *Koellikerina bouilloni* n. sp. is added to eight known species of the genus *Koellikerina* on the basis of an absence of bell constriction, a colorless body, and the presence of adaxial ocelli, perradial gonads, and a peduncle by examining a specimen from Tanabe Bay, Wakayama Prefecture and 18 specimens formerly collected from Papua New Guinea. Although bell constriction has been criticized as a taxonomic character, we conclude that it is reliable among *Koellikerina* because all the *K. bouilloni* specimens at variable developmental stages lack bell constriction and are clearly distinguishable from *K. constricta*.

Key words: *Koellikerina constricta*, *Koellikerina bouilloni* n. sp., hydromedusae, taxonomy, zoogeography, distribution, new species, Kuchinoerabu Island, Tanabe Bay

Introduction

The genus *Koellikerina* Kramp, 1939 (Anthomedusae, Bougainvilliidae), which is characterized by eight groups of marginal tentacles, includes 11 medusan nominal species and one unidentified species (Bouillon and Boero, 2000; Miyake *et al.*, 2004; Xu and Huang, 2004). The polypoid stage is known only for *K. fasciculata* (Péron and Lesueur, 1810) (Bouillon and Boero, 2000). Most species of *Koellikerina* medusae have been reported from warm, shallow waters in the Atlantic Ocean, the Indian Ocean, and the western coast of the Pacific Ocean (Bouillon, 1980; Kramp, 1959a, 1968; Mayer, 1910; Xu and Zhang, 1978, 1981). *Koellikerina maasi* (Browne, 1910), however, has been found under the ice from McMurdo Sound, Antarctic (Browne, 1910), and *Koellikerina* sp. has been found in the deep sea off the west coast of Hokkaido, Japan (Miyake *et al.*, 2004).

We collected two species of *Koellikerina* from shallow waters in Japan. One specimen of *K. constricta* (Menon, 1932) was collected from Kuchinoerabu Island, in the northern part of the Nansei Islands, during cruises between 1991 and 2004 of the T/RV Toyoshio-maru, Hiroshima University. The specific name, *constricta*, came from the bell constriction of the holotype (Menon, 1932). Another specimen of the genus *Koellikerina* that lacked bell constriction was collected from the Pacific coast of Honshu, Japan, during cruises between 1992 and 2005 of the T/RV Janthina III, Seto Marine Biological Laboratory, Kyoto University. After detailed observations, this specimen was found to be new to science and here will be described as a new species. *Koellikerina* medusae are very rare in Japanese waters (Kubota, 2006, in press); the present records are the first full description of two species of the genus from Japan.

In this study, evaluation of bell constriction as a reliable taxonomic character also is discussed though the bell constriction of *K. constricta* was disregarded as a specific character by Kramp (1965) because it is affected by both medusa development and the state of preservation.

Materials and Methods

One specimen of *Koellikerina constricta* from Kuchinoerabu Island, Kagoshima Prefecture, Japan, was collected by snorkeling at the coast of Honmura on May 10, 1991. The medusa was

swimming just below the sea surface among a swarm of other pelagic plankton, including other medusae, ctenophores, and salps (Kubota, 1993).

Another specimen of *Koellikerina* was collected from the mouth of Tanabe Bay, the Pacific coast of Honshu, Wakayama Prefecture, Japan, on October 22, 2001, by vertical tow of a plankton net (0.56 m diameter, 0.33 mm mesh size, NGG54) from 2 m above the bottom (27 m depth).

Both specimens were fixed in buffered 5% formalin-seawater within a day of sampling and preserved in the same solution. Drawings were made from both photographs of the living specimens and from preserved specimens using a camera lucida.

Taxonomy

Family Bougainvilliidae Lütken, 1850

Genus *Koellikerina* Kramp, 1939

Koellikerina constricta (Menon, 1932)

(Figs. 1A, 2)

Koellikeria constricta Menon, 1932, 11-12, pl. 2, fig. 11.

Koellikerina constricta: Kramp, 1939: 512; Kramp, 1961: 84; Kramp, 1965: 22;

Kramp, 1968: 37; Xu and Zhang, 1978: 26-27, pl. 1, fig. 2; Xu and Zhang,

1981: 374; Xu and Huang, 2004: 550, Table 3.

Koellikerina sp.: Kubota, 2006 [In Press]: fig. 3, Table 1.

Material examined.

Single mature male medusa (SMBL Cni-10001), 33°27.0'N, 130°10.5'E, Kuchinoerabu Island, Kagoshima Prefecture, Japan, 1 m deep, 10 May 1991, collected by S. Kubota. The specimen is deposited in Seto Marine Biological Laboratory, Field Science Education and Research Center, Kyoto University.

Description.

Bell without cnida, pyriform in shape, 6.7 mm in height, 4.5 mm in diameter. Distinct bell

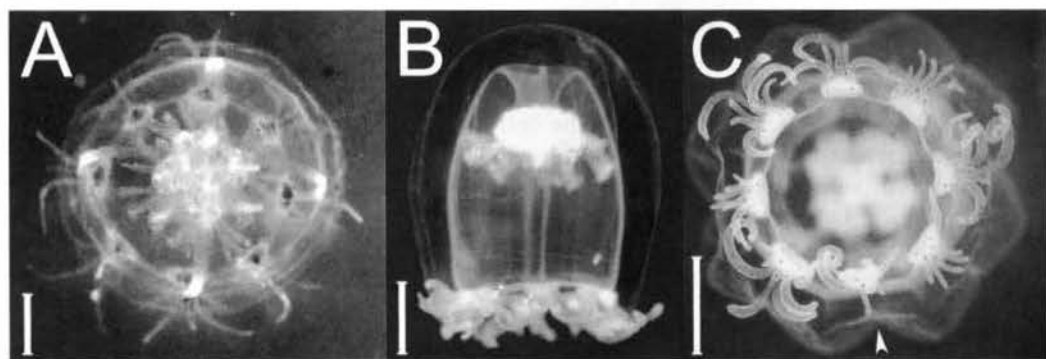


Fig. 1. Photographs of two species of *Koellikerina* medusae from Japan. A: Mature male medusa of *Koellikerina constricta* (SMBL Cni-10001), viewed from the bell apex when collected. B: Mature female medusa of *Koellikerina bouilloni* n. sp. (SMBL Type No. 419), preserved in buffered 5% formalin-seawater, lateral view. C: Same specimen as (B), oral view. The contracted mesoglea forms V-shaped notches (indicated by arrow) on the bell side one year after collection. Scale bar = 1 mm.

constriction at about a fifth of its height from top (Fig. 2). Eight clusters of marginal tentacles (Fig. 1A). Seven perradial tentacles and five interradial ones, stemming from each marginal bulb, with single black adaxial ocellus at its base. Marginal bulbs reddish brown in color. Ring canal and four radial canals straight. Manubrium hanging from long and narrow peduncle. Mouth cruciform in shape with four simple oral lips. Each of four perradial oral tentacles branching dichotomously six times, tips of oral tentacles red in color. Each of four gonads V-shaped, formed on perradial sides of stomach, brilliant yellow in color, with four pairs of lateral folds with single median fold (= totally nine lateral folds). Preserved specimens, in buffered 5% formalin-seawater for 13 years, lost its color in marginal bulbs, tips of oral tentacles, and gonads except for black ocelli.

Geographic Distribution.

Madras, India; Ceylon Island, Sri Lanka; Banda Sea, Indonesia; Guangdong and Fujian, China; Kuchinoerabu Island, Japan.

Remarks.

This is the first full description of *K. constricta* from Japanese waters, and it expands the northern limit of its distribution. Our specimen agreed with the original description from India (Menon, 1932)

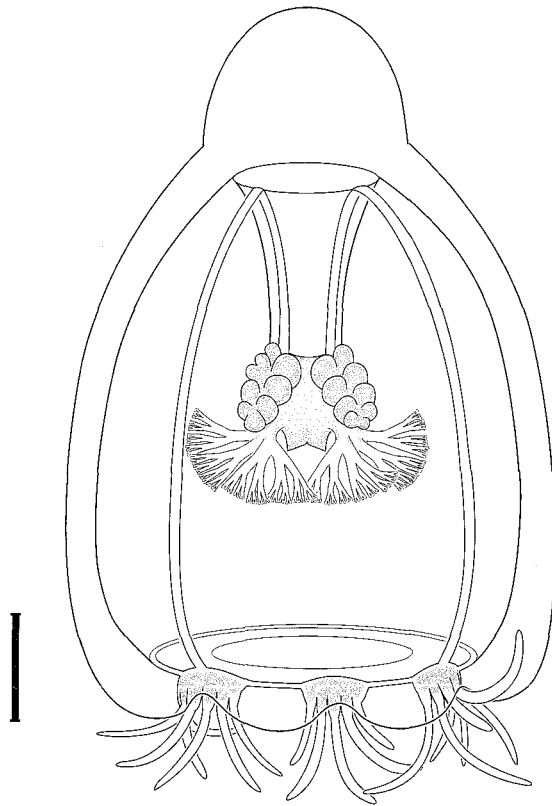


Fig. 2. Mature male medusa of *Koellikerina constricta* (SMBL Cni-10001), lateral view. Only three clusters of marginal tentacles, two clusters of oral tentacles, two perradial gonads, and two radial canals are shown. Scale bar = 1 mm.

Table 1. Morphological comparison of a new *Koellikerina* species with other congeneric medusae.

Species	Bell size (mm)		No. of tentacles/ marginal bulb		No. of branching of oral tentacles	Projection or constriction of bell apex	Peduncle	Ocelli and its position
	height	diameter	perradial	interradial				
<i>K. bouilloni</i> n. sp.	4.0	3.5	7-8	7-8	6	-	+	+, adaxial
<i>K. bouilloni</i> (= <i>K. constricta</i> sensu Bouillon 1980)	8	7	14	14	7 ¹	-	+	+, adaxial
	6.7	4.5	7	5	6	+	+	+, adaxial
<i>K. constricta</i> (Menon, 1932)	4-9	3-6	5-8	5-8	4-7	+ ²	+	+, nd
<i>K. diforficulata</i> Xu & Zhang, 1978	5	4	5	5	2	-	+	+, abaxial
<i>K. elegans</i> (Mayer, 1900)	3-7	5	4	3	3, each tip terminates in three branches	-	+	+, adaxial
<i>K. fasciculata</i> (Péron & Lesueur, 1809)	8-15	9-12	10-23	10-23	5-8	-	+	+, adaxial
<i>K. maasi</i> (Browne, 1910)	9-10	8-9	5-9	5-7	5-8	-	-	-
<i>K. multicirrata</i> (Kramp, 1928)	3-6	3-6	9-16	9-16	6-7 or more	-	-	+, adaxial
<i>K. octonemalis</i> (Maas, 1905)	5-6	4-5	7-9	5-7	5-6	-	+	+, adaxial
<i>K. ornata</i> Kramp, 1959	8-11	8	17-19	17-19	5-6	+	+	+, adaxial
<i>Koellikerina</i> sp.	21.8	18.6	nd	nd	nd	- ³	+ ³	nd, nd

+: present, -: absent, nd: no data

¹counted from the specimens of *K. constricta* sensu Bouillon 1980²not mentioned in Kramp (1965)³observation from Fig. 6 in Miyake *et al.* (2004)

Table 1. Continued.

Species	Position of gonad	No. of lateral folds of gonad (pairs)	Color except for ocelli	Geographical distributions	Major references (No. of individuals examined in each reference)
<i>K. bouilloni</i> n. sp.	perradial	3	marginal bulb orange	Tanabe Bay, Japan	this study (1)
<i>K. bouilloni</i> (= <i>K. constricta</i> sensu Bouillon 1980)	perradial	3	proximal part of oral tentacles orange, tentacle gold, marginal bulb red, orange, or yellow	Papua New Guinea	Bouillon, 1980 (40)
<i>K. constricta</i>	perradial	4	marginal bulb red brown, tip of oral tentacles red, gonad yellow	Kuchinoerabu I., Japan	this study (1)
	perradial	3-4	marginal bulb brown	Madras, India; Sri Lanka; Banda Sea, Indonesia; Guangdong & Fujian, China	Menon, 1932 (1); Kramp, 1965 (3); Xu & Zhang, 1978 (5); Xu & Huang, 2004
<i>K. diforficulata</i>	perradial	3-4	nd	Guangdong, China	Xu & Zhang, 1978 (2); Xu & Huang, 2004
<i>K. elegans</i>	interradial	nd	oral tentacle pearly pink, stomach green	Tortugas, Florida; Trivandrum, India	Mayer, 1900 (several); Kramp, 1961
<i>K. fasciculata</i>	perradial	5	marginal bulb, stomach, and gonad between adjacent lateral folds red to brownish red, oral tentacle purple or red	Mediterranean; Azores; off Walvis Bay, Namibia	Péron & Lesueur, 1810; Mayer, 1910; Kramp, 1948 (1); Petersen & Vannucci, 1960 (30); Pagès <i>et al.</i> , 1992 (1)
<i>K. maasi</i>	interradial	0	stomach red	Antarctic; Madagascar; Papua New Guinea; New Zealand	Browne, 1910 (24); Kramp, 1965 (1); Kramp, 1968; Bouillon <i>et al.</i> , 1986 (2); Schuchert, 1996 (2)
<i>K. multicirrata</i>	perradial	2-3	stomach orange, marginal bulb yellowish-grey (in alcohol)	tropical Indian Ocean; Malay Archipelago; Guangdong, China	Kramp, 1928 (1); Kramp, 1965 (12); Xu & Zhang, 1981
<i>K. octonemalis</i>	interradial	0	marginal bulb red, stomach reddish brown, eggs appear as flecks of yellow	Malay Archipelago; Guangdong, China	Maas, 1905 (2); Xu & Zhang, 1981 (1)
<i>K. ornata</i>	perradial	4-5	conical apical projection with a orange patch, young tentacle pigmented orange	Sri Lanka; Papua New Guinea	Kramp, 1959b (1); Bouillon, 1980 (9)
<i>Koellikerina</i> sp.	perradial ³	>5 ³	oral tentacle red ³	off Hokkaido, Japan	Miyake <i>et al.</i> , 2004

and the redescription from China (Xu and Zhang, 1978; Xu and Huang, 2004) in bell constriction, the presence of a peduncle, and the perradial gonads (Table 1). *Koellikerina ornata* Kramp, 1959 also has all these characters, however, it has a larger bell, more tentacles, and orange-colored tip of apical projection and young tentacles (Kramp, 1959b). Kramp (1959b) mentioned that this orange color remained distinct after eight years of storage in formalin and distinguishes *K. ornata* from *K. constricta*. We also examined one *K. ornata* specimen collected in 1976 and preserved in formalin (IG. 27838 from Laing, Papua New Guinea, Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences); the specimen was 9.0 mm in bell height and 14-15 in the number of tentacles, and the orange-color remained in its young tentacles.

***Koellikerina bouilloni* n. sp.**

(Figs. 1B-C, 3A-C)

Koellikerina constricta: Bouillon, 1980: 311-313, fig. 2.

Koellikerina sp.: Kubota, 2003: 31.

Material examined.

Holotype (SMBL Type No, 419), Tanabe Bay, Wakayama, Japan, 27 m deep, 33°42.2'N, 135°21.5'E, vertical tow, 22 October 2001, collected by M. Kawamura. The type specimen was deposited in Seto Marine Biological Laboratory, Field Science Education and Research Center, Kyoto University; 14 specimens (IG. 27838), Laing Island, Papua New Guinea, 4°10.5'S, 144°52.8'E, 1977, 1987, collected by J. Bouillon; Four specimens (IG. 27838), Papua New Guinea, 1989, collected by J. Bouillon.

Description.

Holotype mature female medusa. Bell, shallowly rounded apex without cnida, 4.0 mm in height, 3.5 mm in diameter (Figs. 1B, 3A). Eight clusters of marginal tentacles (Fig. 1C). Seven or eight tentacles, stemming from each marginal bulb, with single black adaxial ocellus at its base (Fig. 3B). Marginal bulbs triangular (Fig. 1C), orange in color. Ring canal and four radial canals straight. Manubrium hanging from short and wide peduncle. Mouth cruciform in shape with simple oral lips. Each of four perradial oral tentacles branching dichotomously six times from short basal stalk. Each of four gonads horseshoe-shaped, formed on perradial sides of stomach (Fig. 3C), with three pairs of lateral folds without median fold (= totally six lateral folds). Entire body colorless except for black ocelli and orange marginal bulbs. Color of marginal bulbs disappearing after a few years of storage in formalin.

Present species reaching double bell size and twice number of tentacles than holotype (Table 1). Minimal mature specimen with eggs, 2 mm in bell height (Table 2). Three specimens of same size (4.0-5.0 mm bell height) as holotype bearing 5-9 tentacles per marginal bulb, 5-7 branching oral tentacles, 1-3 pairs of laterally folded gonads, agreeing with holotype.

Etymology.

The specific name honors Dr. J. Bouillon, who first described this species from Papua New Guinea.

Geographic Distribution.

Laing Island, Papua New Guinea; Tanabe Bay, the Pacific coast of Honshu, Japan (the type locality).

Remarks.

Bouillon (1980) described "*K. constricta*" based on 40 specimens from Papua New Guinea

without bell constriction. He did not consider bell constriction an important character, in agreement with the conclusion by Kramp (1965), who pointed out that "Some of the structures which have been used as distinguishing characters are variable, and some may depend on the stage of development of the specimens. The state of contraction in preserved specimens should also be considered; this mainly applies to the presence or absence or degree of development of a gelatinous apical projection," and that "The specific name *constricta* alludes to a characteristic constriction of the umbrella of the type specimen about 1/3 of its height from the top; similar constrictions may, however, appear in many different medusae and no specific signification can be ascribed to them." However, the specimens examined by Bouillon (1980), like our specimen, were relatively large and in good condition, without considerable contraction. Moreover, 18 specimens collected by Bouillon from 1977 to 1989, examined in the present study, did not show any constriction (Table 2). Bell constriction requires a thickened mesoglea of the bell apex but the mesoglea of *K. bouilloni* is too thin to form a constriction.

In 11 congeneric nominal species of the genus *Koellikerina* (Bouillon and Boero, 2000, Xu and

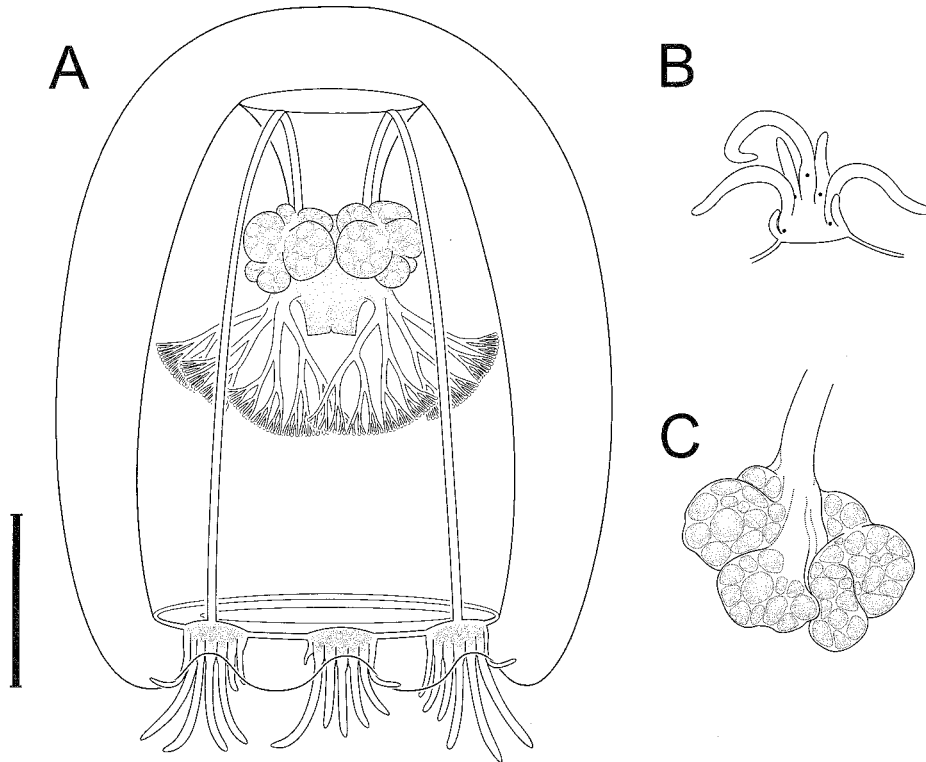


Fig. 3. Mature female medusa of *Koellikerina bouilloni* n. sp. (SMBL Type No., 419). A: Lateral view; B: Oral view showing a cluster of marginal tentacles, five large tentacles with an adaxial ocellus, and two young tentacles without an ocellus; C: Lateral view showing a gonad with three pairs of lateral folds containing eggs. Scale bar = 1 mm for (A) and (B), 0.5 mm for (C). Only three clusters of marginal tentacles, two clusters of oral tentacles, two periradial gonads, and two radial canals are shown.

Table 2. Variation of characters among 18 specimens of *Koellikerina bouilloni* n. sp. from Papua New Guinea

Bell size (mm)		No. of tentacles/ perradial marginal bulb	No. of branching of oral tentacles	Projection or constriction of bell apex (- : absent)	Sex (m: male; f: female)	No. of lateral folds of gonad (pairs)	Sampling year
height	diameter						
1.8	1.8	3	4	-	?	1	1989
2.0	2.0	3	4	-	?	1	1987
2.0	2.0	3	4	-	?	1	1989
2.0	2.0	5	4	-	?	2	1977
2.0	2.0	5	5	-	?	1	1977
2.0	3.0	5	5	-	f	1	1987
2.5	2.5	3	5	-	?	1	1977
3.0	3.0	5	broken	-	m	3	1987
3.0	3.0	5	5	-	?	1	1987
4.0	3.0	5	5	-	?	1	1989
4.0	4.5	5	6	-	?	2	1977
5.0	5.0	9	7	-	f	3	1987
5.5	5.5	7	7	-	f	3	1977
5.5	6.0	7	6	-	m	4	1989
6.0	6.0	7	6	-	m	4	1987
6.0	6.5	10	6	-	?	2	1987
7.0	7.0	13	7	-	f	4	1987
8.5	7.0	13	7	-	f	4	1987

Huang, 2004), *K. heteronemalis* Xu, Huang and Chen, 1991, *K. taiwanensis* Xu, Huang and Chen, 1991, and *K. staurogaster* Xu and Huang, 2004 (based on one young medusa) are treated here as insufficiently described species and perhaps one of the known species of *Koellikerina* as Bouillon and Boero (2000) pointed out. Compared to eight other congeneric nominal species (Bouillon and Boero, 2000), the present specimen of *Koellikerina bouilloni* n. sp. is similar to *K. fasciculata* from the Mediterranean Sea in sharing an absence of bell constriction and the presence of adaxial ocelli, perradial gonads, and a peduncle (Table 1). However, *K. fasciculata* is different from *K. bouilloni* in that it has a larger body size, more tentacles, and red colored gonads between adjacent lateral folds, oral tentacles, and marginal bulbs, as well as a stomach (Mayer, 1910; Péron and Lesueur, 1810; Petersen and Vannucci, 1960). In *K. fasciculata*, a brick-red color is apparent on the manubrium of newly liberated medusae; the color expands to the oral tentacles, gonads, and the stomach as the medusa develops (Petersen and Vannucci, 1960). This red color remains distinct after 40 years of storage in formalin-seawater (IG. 27838 from Naples, Italy, Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences), and is a stable character for *K. fasciculata*. In common, other medusae is not stained such a deep red as *K. fasciculata* even though they feed *Artemia* nauplii, which had been used as foods by Petersen and Vannucci (1960). Moreover, any coloring due to food consumption usually disappears after digestion.

Three medusae of *Koellikerina* sp. were recently observed from the south slope of Shiribeshi Seamount off the west coast of Hokkaido, Japan, at depths of 627-685 m (<1°C). They possessed red oral tentacles (Fig. 6 in Miyake *et al.*, 2004), much higher bell, and more lateral folds on the gonads, than *K. bouilloni* (Table 1). *Koellikerina bouilloni* is thought to occur mainly in tropical waters, because 40 specimens have been collected from Laing Island, Papua New Guinea (>25°C throughout the year) (Bouillon, 1980; Bouillon *et al.*, 1986), whereas only one specimen has been collected from

Tanabe Bay, Japan, (24°C on 22 October 2001) from hundreds of hauls of a plankton net from 1992 to 2005. Therefore, we concluded that the habitat of *K. bouillon* differs from that of *Koellikerina* sp.

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