

New species of Nannoniscidae (Crustacea, Isopoda) and *Saetoniscus* n. gen. from the deep sea of the Angola Basin

ANGELIKA BRANDT

Zoological Institute and Zoological Museum, Martin-Luther-King-Platz 3; 20146 Hamburg, Germany,
abrandt@zoologie.uni-hamburg.de

Abstract

Regabellator abyssi n. sp., *Saetoniscus meteori* n. sp. et gen. n., *Rapaniscus multisetosus* n. sp. and *Nannoniscus antennaspinis* n. sp. are described from the Atlantic deep sea of the Angola Basin, Namibia. Sixty seven species of Nannoniscidae have been described. Forty two species including the 4 described here are known from the Atlantic Ocean. A checklist of Atlantic Nannoniscidae is provided.

Key words: *Regabellator abyssi* n. sp., *Saetoniscus meteori* n. sp. et gen. n., *Rapaniscus multisetosus* n. sp. and *Nannoniscus antennaspinis* n. sp., Nannoniscidae, deep sea, taxonomy

Introduction

While the benthos south of Africa is influenced by the warm Agulhas Current system, the organisms in the Angola Basin north of the Walvis Ridge occur within the cold Benguela Current, (Reid, 1996; Wefer *et al.*, 1996, and articles therein).

Among isopods collected during the DIVA I (latitudinal gradients in the diversity of the Atlantic deep sea) expedition with RV "Meteor" (M 48-1) into the deep sea of the Angola Basin, Namibia, four new species and one new genus of Nannoniscidae (Isopoda: Asellota) were sampled. The present study describes this new material.

The Nannoniscidae are primarily a deep-sea family with most species occurring in the Atlantic Ocean. Until now Nannoniscidae had 67 described species in 8 genera. Forty two of these are known from the Atlantic Ocean with 8 species occurring at depths greater than 4000 m. Both previously described taxa and the new taxa described herein are summarized below.