



## Annotated checklist and keys for cumaceans (Crustacea: Peracarida) from the Tropical Eastern Pacific, with six new species from the Southern Mexican Pacific

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### Table of contents

Abstract .....	202
Resumen .....	202
Introduction .....	202
Material and methods .....	203
Results .....	205
Annotated checklist for cumaceans (Crustacea: Peracarida) from Eastern Tropical Pacific .....	205
Superorder Peracarida .....	205
Order Cumacea .....	205
Family Bodotriidae Scott, 1901 .....	205
Subfamily Bodotriinae Scott, 1901 .....	205
Genus <i>Coricuma</i> Watling & Breedy, 1988 .....	205
<i>Coricuma nicoyensis</i> Watling & Breedy, 1988 .....	206
<i>Coricuma zurai</i> sp. nov. ....	206
Genus <i>Cyclaspis</i> Sars, 1865 .....	211
<i>Cyclaspis bituberculata</i> Donath-Hernández, 1988 .....	211
<i>Cyclaspis boquillensis</i> sp. nov. ....	212
<i>Cyclaspis breedyae</i> Petrescu & Heard, 2004 .....	217
<i>Cyclaspis concepcionensis</i> Donath-Hernández, 1988 .....	217
<i>Cyclaspis dolera</i> Zimmer, 1944 .....	217
<i>Cyclaspis hyalinus</i> sp. nov. ....	219
<i>Cyclaspis nubila</i> Zimmer, 1936 .....	224
<i>Cyclaspis testudinum</i> Zimmer, 1943 .....	224
<i>Cyclaspis Vargasae</i> Petrescu & Heard, 2004 .....	224
Subfamily Vaunthompsoniinae Sars, 1878 .....	225
Genus <i>Leptocuma</i> Sars, 1873 .....	225
<i>Leptocuma forsmanni</i> Zimmer, 1943 .....	225
Family Diastylidae Bate, 1856 .....	225
Genus <i>Diastylis</i> Say, 1818 .....	225
<i>Diastylis calderoni</i> Donath-Hernández, 1988 .....	225
<i>Diastylis californica</i> Zimmer, 1936 .....	225
<i>Diastylis tenebricosa</i> Jones, 1969 .....	225
Genus <i>Leptostylis</i> Sars, 1869 .....	226
<i>Leptostylis menziesi</i> Bacescu-Mester, 1967 .....	226
Genus <i>Makrokyllindrus</i> Stebbing, 1912 .....	226
<i>Makrokyllindrus americanus</i> Bacescu, 1962 .....	226
<i>Makrokyllindrus menziesi</i> Bacescu, 1962 .....	226
Genus <i>Oxyurostylis</i> Calman, 1912 .....	226
<i>Oxyurostylis pacifica</i> Zimmer, 1936 .....	226
<i>Oxyurostylis tertia</i> Zimmer, 1943 .....	226
Genus <i>Vemakylindrus</i> Bacescu, 1961 .....	227
<i>Vemakylindrus costaricanus</i> (Bacescu, 1961) .....	227
<i>Vemakylindrus gladiger</i> (Bacescu, 1961) .....	227

Family Leuconidae Sars, 1878 .....	227
Genus <i>Leucon</i> Krøyer, 1846 .....	227
<i>Leucon (Crymoleucon) bishopi</i> (Jones, 1969) .....	227
Family Nannastacidae Bate, 1866 .....	227
Genus <i>Campylaspis</i> Sars, 1865 .....	227
<i>Campylaspis rubromaculata</i> Lie, 1971 .....	227
Genus <i>Cumella</i> Sars, 1865 .....	228
<i>Cumella (Cumella)</i> Sars, 1865 .....	228
<i>Cumella (Cumella) californica</i> Watling & McCann, 1997 .....	228
<i>Cumella (Cumewingia)</i> Bacescu, 1971 .....	228
<i>Cumella (Cumewingia) carmeinae</i> sp. nov. ....	228
<i>Cumella (Cumewingia) quintinensis</i> Donath-Hernández, 2011 .....	234
Genus <i>Elassocumella</i> Watling, 1991 .....	234
<i>Elassocumella krakeri</i> sp. nov. ....	236
Genus <i>Nannastacus</i> Bate, 1865 .....	241
<i>Nannastacus corallinus</i> sp. nov. ....	241
Key for cumaceans from the Tropical Eastern Pacific .....	247
Discussion and conclusion .....	254
Acknowledgements .....	254
References .....	255

## Abstract

In the Tropical Eastern Pacific (TEP) 23 species of cumaceans are known, however none of these species has been previously registered in the southern Pacific coast of Mexico. The examination of 378 specimens resulted in six new species, belonging to two families and five genera, *Coricumia zurai* **sp. nov.**, *Cyclaspis boquillensis* **sp. nov.**, *Cyclaspis hyalinus* **sp. nov.**, *Cumella (Cumewingia) carmeinae* **sp. nov.**, *Elassocumella krakeri* **sp. nov.** and *Nannastacus corallinus* **sp. nov.** The genus *Coricumia* Watling & Breedy, 1988, increases its geographical range from Costa Rica to Mexico, and a second species is described. Recorded for the first time in the Eastern Pacific are the genera *Elassocumella* Watling, 1991 and *Nannastacus* Bate, 1865. An annotated checklist and illustrated key to all species of cumaceans recognised from the Tropical Eastern Pacific are included.

**Key words:** Cumacea, new species, peracarids, shallow water, Eastern Pacific

## Resumen

En el Pacífico oriental tropical (POT) 23 especies de cumáceos son conocidas, sin embargo, ninguna de estas especies ha sido registrada previamente en la costa sur del Pacífico mexicano. Se examinaron 378 ejemplares resultando en seis nuevas especies, pertenecientes a dos familias y cinco géneros, *Coricumia zurai* **sp. nov.**, *Cyclaspis boquillensis* **sp. nov.**, *Cyclaspis hyalinus* **sp. nov.**, *Cumella (Cumewingia) carmeinae* **sp. nov.**, *Elassocumella krakeri* **sp. nov.** y *Nannastacus corallinus* **sp. nov.** Para el género *Coricumia* Watling & Breedy, 1988, se incrementó el ámbito geográfico de Costa Rica a México, y se describe una segunda especie. Por primera vez se registran en el Pacífico oriental los géneros *Elassocumella* Watling, 1991 y *Nannastacus* Bate, 1865. Se incluye un listado comentado y una clave ilustrada para todas las especies de cumáceos registradas en el Pacífico oriental tropical.

**Palabras clave:** Cumacea, nuevas especies, peracáridos, someros, Pacífico oriental

## Introduction

The order Cumacea comprises a group of small crustaceans belonging to the superorder Peracarida and the subclass Malacostraca. Today, there are more than 1,593 species described that are divided into eight families and 138 recognised genera (Anderson 2010). These small crustaceans are benthic and live mostly half-buried in the surface layers of fine sediment, detritus, sandy substrates, rocky reefs and fouling organisms (e.g., algae, sponges, hydroids and bryozoans) (Heard *et al.* 2007). Furthermore, according to Bacescu & Petrescu (1999), the cumaceans are primarily marine (90% of species), but they can also be found in brackish environments (6%) and freshwater (2%); the depth distribution is from the intertidal zone to 8,100 m. In addition Bacescu & Petrescu (*idem*) indicate