# Anuretes grandis sp. n., a caligid copepod (Siphonostomatoida) parasitic on *Diagramma pictum* (Pisces) in Taiwan, with discussion of *Anuretes* Heller, 1865

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Key words: fish parasite, parasitic copepod, Taiwan, Anuretes grandis, taxonomy, key to species

Abstract. A new species of caligid copepod (Siphonostomatoida), Anuretes grandis sp. n., parasitic on the painted sweetlips [Diagramma pictum (Thunberg)] in Taiwan is described. The new species is distinguished from its congeners by having: (1) free margin of cephalothorax not covering fourth pediger, (2) large genital complex longer than 2/3 of the cephalic shield, (3) no maxillary whip, (4) leg 3 with 9 setae on the terminal segment of exopod and 8 plumose setae on the terminal segment of endopod, and (5) armature of I,III on leg 4 exopod. Genus Anuretes Heller, 1865 is reviewed and redefined. Based on the new diagnosis three species (A. chelatus Prabha et Pillai, A. fedderni Price and A. parvulus Wilson) were transferred to Pseudanuretes, and two species (A. furcatus Capart and A. renalis Heegaard) were transferred to Lepeophtheirus. In addition, the following three species of caligids were transferred to Anuretes: Lepeophtheirus fallolunulus Lewis, Heniochophilus indicus Pillai, and Lepeophtheirus rotundigenitalis Prabha et Pillai. The latter is renamed Anuretes occultus nom. n. due to the homonym encountered through this transfer. "Anuretes plectorhynchi Yamaguti" reported by Prabha and Pillai (1986) is renamed Anuretes similis sp. n. and Anuretes yamagutii Prabha et Pillai is relegated to the synonym of Anuretes anomalus Pillai. A key to the 18 species of Anuretes is provided.

Although more than 200 species of marine fishes are caught for food from the waters of Taiwan, only about 15% of them have so far been examined for copepod parasites. In order to narrow this gap, we launched in 1997 a survey of commercial fishes for their copepod parasites. Up till now, we have obtained parasitic copepods from 67 of the 90 species of fishes examined. In this paper we shall report a new species of *Anuretes* recovered from the gills of painted sweetlips [*Diagramma pictum* (Thunberg)].

In their fourth part of report on the copepod parasites of the marine fishes of India, Prabha and Pillai (1986) reported seven species of *Anuretes* with four of them new to science. However, close examination of their report revealed that "*Anuretes chelatus* sp. nov." is a species of *Pseudanuretes*, "*Anuretes yamagutii* sp. nov." a misidentification for *Anuretes anomalus* Pillai, 1967, and "*Anuretes plectorhynchi* Yamaguti" a new species. Such mistakes are considered chiefly due to the ambiguity of the definition of the genus *Anuretes*. Thus, we shall take the opportunity of describing the first species of *Anuretes* from Taiwan to give a general discussion of the genus and also to provide a key to the known species.

#### MATERIALS AND METHODS

The fish hosts – painted sweetlips [*Diagramma pictum* (Thunberg)] – were purchased from the Mi-Tuo Fishing Port in Kaohsiung County of Taiwan and transferred in an icebox

to National Chiayi Institute of Technology where the laboratory examination for parasites was carried out. The copepod parasites removed from the fish hosts were preserved in 70% ethanol. They were later cleared in 85% lactic acid for 1 to 2 h before dissection in a drop of lactic acid on a wooden slide (Humes and Gooding 1964). The removed body parts and appendages were examined under the compound microscope with a series of magnifications up to ×1,500. All drawings were made with the aid of a camera lucida.

#### RESULTS

### Anuretes grandis sp. n.

Figs. 1-3

**Female.** Body (Fig. 1A) 1.72 (1.50-1.98) mm long, excluding setae on caudal rami. Cephalothoracic shield longer than wide, 0.98 (0.92-1.06)  $\times$  0.81 (0.74-0.92) mm, excluding marginal hyaline membrane. Fourth pediger, 0.14  $\times$  0.18 mm, only partially covered by free margin of cephalothorax. Genital complex usually slightly longer than wide, 0.70 (0.58-0.90)  $\times$  0.68 (0.56-0.92) mm. Abdomen (Fig. 3C) much reduced, represented by reduced, bilobate anal somite located at end of genital complex. Caudal ramus (Fig. 3C) small, longer than wide, 25 (24-28)  $\times$  22 (16-24) µm, carrying 3 short and 3 long plumose setae. Egg sac 1.15 (0.76-1.93) mm long, containing as many as 34 eggs.

Antennule (Fig. 1B) 2-segmented; proximal segment with 27 setae on anterodistal surface, distal segment with a subterminal seta on posterior margin and 11 setae

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**Fig. 1.** Anuretes grandis sp. n., female. A – habitus, dorsal; B – antennule, ventral; C – antenna, postantennal process and maxillule, ventral; D – maxilla; E – maxilliped; F – mandible; G – sternal furca. Scale bars: A = 0.3 mm; B, F = 0.03 mm; C, E = 0.1 mm; D = 0.07 mm; G = 0.05 mm.

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plus 1 aesthetasc on distal margin. Antenna (Fig. 1C) 3segmented; proximal segment smallest, with sharply pointed posteromedial process; second segment rectangular and unarmed; distal segment a sharply pointed, bent claw bearing 1 seta in proximal region and another one in middle region. Postantennal process bluntly pointed claw, bearing 2 basal papillae with each bearing 4 setules. Another similar papilla located nearby on sternum.

Mandible (Fig. 1F) apparently 2-segmented; with 12 teeth on medial margin of distal blade. Maxillule (Fig. 1C) comprising short pointed process and papilla with 3 setae. Maxilla (Fig. 1D) 2-segmented; proximal segment (lacertus) large and unarmed, slender, distal segment (brachium) carrying a subterminal, hyaline membrane on outer edge and 2 unusual elements (calamus and canna) terminally. Maxillary whip (Figs. 3A,B) obtuse, bent process located posterolaterally to maxilla. Maxilliped (Fig. 1E) 3-segmented; proximal segment (corpus) largest but unarmed; middle and distal segments fused to form strong, sharply pointed claw carrying medial seta. Sternal furca (Fig. 1G) with short, obtuse, parallel tines.

Armature on rami of legs 1-4 as follows (Roman numeral indicating spines and Arabic numeral, setae):

	Exopod	Endopod
Leg 1	1-0; III,1,3	(vestigial)
Leg 2	I-1; I-1; II,I,5	0-1; 0-2; 6
Leg 3	I-0; 9	0-0; 6
Leg 4	I-0; III	(missing)

Leg 1 (Fig. 2A) protopod with long, plumose outer (anterior) seta and another small, plumose inner (posterior) seta; vestigial endopod 2-segmented and tipped with 2 setules; first segment of exopod with row of setules on posterior (inner) edge and short spiniform seta at outer (anterior) distal corner; inner 2 of 3 terminal elements on last segment of exopod (Fig. 2B) with accessory process, bipinnate setiform process originated at base of innermost terminal element. Leg 2 (Fig. 2C) coxa small, with large, plumose, inner seta on posterior edge; basis lacking outer seta; both outer and medial edges of protopod fringed with large marginal membrane. Leg 3 (Fig. 2D) protopod (apron) with large, outer marginal membrane; posterior edge with small, plumose, outer seta and large, plumose inner seta. Leg 4 (Fig. 2E) protopod with naked outer seta; pectens on exopod segments at insertion of 2 inner, terminal spines (Fig. 2F). Leg 5 (Fig. 3C) represented by a papilla bearing single, plumose seta and leg 6 (Fig. 3C) represented by a slightly larger papilla tipped with 3 plumose setae.

T y p e h o s t : Diagramma pictum (Thunberg).

Site of infection : gills.

Typelocality: Mi-Tuo, Kaohsiung County, Taiwan.

- Prevalence and intensity: 33% (1  $\bigcirc$  from 1 of 3 fishes) obtained on 2 April, 1999 and 50 % (25  $\bigcirc$   $\bigcirc$  from 2 of 4 fishes) obtained on 14 May, 1999.
- E t y m o l o g y : The species name *grandis*, from Latin meaning large, great, noble, magnificent, refers to the spectacular genital complex, which is nearly as large as the cephalothorax an unusual feature for the species of *Anuretes*.
- D e p o s i t i o n o f t y p e s : Holotype (USNM 288089) and 12 paratypes (USNM 288090) have been deposited in the National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C.

Remarks. The new species from Taiwan is characteristic in having a large genital complex, which is about 71 (63-85) % of the size of cephalothorax. Currently, there are 20 nominal species in the genus Anuretes and only one of them, A. rotundigenitalis Hameed, bears a large genital complex like the present species. However, the new species is distinguished from A. rotundigenitalis chiefly in the armature on legs 2, 3, and 4. In A. rotundigenitalis the first outer spine on the exopod of leg 2 does not reach the distal edge of the terminal segment, the distal segment of leg 3 exopod has 8 (instead of 9) setae, and the middle spine on the terminal segment of leg 4 exopod is about 1/2 (instead of 4/5) the length of the inner most spine. A. rotundigenitalis is known from a grunt, "Diagramma crassispinum Day", collected in Cape Comorin, India (Hameed 1976).

It is noteworthy that in *A. grandis* the armature on the terminal region of the distal segment of antennule is 11 + 1 aesthetasc, with one less element (either seta or aesthetasc) in comparison with most species of *Caligus* and *Lepeophtheirus*. Also, the basis of leg 2 is unusual in lacking outer seta.

# DISCUSSION

## Genus Anuretes Heller, 1865

In 1863 when Henrik Krøyer described *Lepeophtheirus heckelii* found on the spadefish, "*Ephippus gigas*", from Brazil and New Orleans, Louisiana, he noticed the copepod bearing a vestigial abdomen and commented that this unusual feature might warrant the creation of a new genus for *L. heckelii*. Krøyer's (1863) comment was adopted by Heller (1865) who proposed a new genus *Anuretes* to accommodate *L. heckelii*. Since the establishment of *Anuretes*, 19 species of caligid copepods have been described and attributed to this genus (Table 1).

Although the distinction between members of *Anuretes* and *Lepeophtheirus* was set to be the absence or great reduction of the abdomen in the species of *Anuretes* (Heller 1865, Wilson 1905, Heegaard 1945, Capart 1953, Lewis 1964, Pillai 1985), some members



**Fig. 2.** Anuretes grandis sp. n., female. A - leg 1, anterior; B - tip of leg 1 exopod; C - leg 2, ventral (anterior); D - leg 3, ventral; E - leg 4, ventral (anterior); F - terminal portion of distal segment of leg 4 exopod. Scale bars: A, <math>D = 0.07 mm; B, E = 0.05 mm; C = 0.15 mm; F = 0.02 mm.



**Fig. 3.** Anuretes grandis sp. n., female. **A** – antenna, postantennal process (PP), maxillule (ML), maxillary whip (MW), basal part of maxilla (MX), ventral; **B** – maxillary whip; **C** – posterior portion of genital complex, ventral. Scale bars: A, C = 0.15 mm; B = 0.03 mm.

of this genus, like *A. furcatus, A. quadrilaterus, A. renalis, A. serratus,* etc., possess a small but distinct abdomen, as in some species of *Lepeophtheirus*. Thus, to distinguish between these two genera by this feature alone was questioned by Shiino (1954), Pillai (1967), and Ho and Dojiri (1977). Shiino (1954) added that *Anuretes* could be distinguished from *Lepeophtheirus* by having a 2-segmented exopod on leg 4 and Pillai (1967) claimed that the occurrence of pinnate seta 4 between spines 2 and 3 on the terminal exopodal segment of leg 1 was not found in species of *Lepeophtheirus*. However, Ho and Dojiri (1977) opted to treat the 12 species of *Anuretes* known then as *Lepeophtheirus* until the taxonomic value of these characters can be re-evaluated.

In his unpublished work on the revision of the genera of the Caligidae, Dojiri (1983) resurrected *Anuretes* and distinguished it from *Lepeophtheirus* by a combination of the following characters:

- 1) Vestigial abdomen.
- 2) Two-segmented exopod of leg 3.
- 3) Absence of basal swelling or fusion of it with basal spine on exopod of leg 3.
- 4) Absence of inner plumose seta of first endopodal segment of leg 3.
- 5) Two-segmented exopod of leg 4.

To this combination of characters we can now add one more feature to define the scope of the genus *Anuretes*:

6) Pinnate seta 4 located between spines 2 and 3 on the terminal segment of exopod of leg 1 (instead of on the posterior corner or inner to the base of spine 3). Although the last character is shared with *Pseudanuretes* Yamaguti, 1936, species of the latter genus are characterised in having an accessory tine on the claw of antenna and lacking postantennal process, dentiform process of maxillule, and sternal furca.

Taking into consideration the above-mentioned diagnostic combination of six characters for the genus *Anuretes*, it was discovered that *A. furcatus* Capart, 1953 and *A. renalis* Heegaard, 1945 should be transferred to *Lepeophtheirus*, because of the possession of a small but distinct abdomen and the 3-segmented exopod of leg 4. Since neither species was well described, no further comments can be provided. We concur with Dojiri's (1983) recommendation to transfer *A. parvulus* Wilson, 1913 to *Pseudanuretes*. Additionally, *A. chelatus* Prabha et Pillai, 1986 and *A. fedderni* Price, 1968 should also be transferred to *Pseudanuretes*. These two species possess an accessory tine on the terminal claw of antenna and lack the postantennal process and the dentiform process of maxillule.

While five species are suggested to be removed from the redefined *Anuretes*, examination of literature on 109 species of *Lepeophtheirus* revealed that two of them, *L. fallolunulus* Lewis, 1967 and *L. rotundigenitalis* Prabha et Pillai, 1983, should be included in the redefined *Anuretes*. *L. fallolunulus* was recovered from the gill cavity of a surgeonfish, *Naso unicornis* (Forsskål), in Hawaii. It was placed in *Lepeophtheirus* with some reservation by Lewis (1967), but based on his description, *L. fallolunulus* possesses all of the redefined characters of *Anuretes* except for the abdomen, which is reduced but not vestigial. Prabha and

Species	Host	Locality
A. anomalus Pillai, 1967	Platax teira (Forsskål) Diagramma pictum (Thunberg) (= Spilotichthys pictus)	Trivandrum, India Heron Island, Australia
A. branchialis Rangnekar, 1953	Eleutheronema tetradactylum (Shaw) Heniochus acuminatus (Linnaeus) Katsuwonus pelamis (Linnaeus) Platax teira	Arabian Sea Shirahama, Japan Bombay, India Australia; Sri Lanka, Celebes; Philippines
A. brevis Pearse, 1951 A. chelatus Prabha et Pillai, 1986 A. fedderni Price, 1968 A. furcatus Capart, 1953 A. heckelii (Krøyer, 1863)	Archosargus probatocephalus (Walbaum) Pomacanthodes imperator (Bloch) Holacanthus ciliaris (Linnaeus) Mobula rochebrunei (Vaillant) Caranx hippos (Linnaeus) Chaetodipterus faber (Broussonet) "Ephippus gigas" Lobotes surinamensis (Bloch) Scomberomorus maculatus (Mitchill) Vomer setapinnis (Mitchill)	Bahamas Trivandrum, India Caribbean Senegal Tuxpan, Mexico Louisiana; Texas, Mississippi Brazil Louisiana Texas Mississippi
A. hoi Prabha et Pillai, 1986	Diagramma pictum (= Spilotichthys pictus)	Trivandrum, India
A. menehune Lewis, 1964	Naso hexacanthus (Bleeker)	Hawaii
A. parvulus Wilson, 1913	Angelichthys bermudensis (Jordan et Rutter) Pomacanthus arcuatus (Linnaeus)	Florida Dry Tortugas, Florida
A. perplexus Bassett-Smith, 1898	Lutjanus sp.	Sri Lanka
A. plataxi Prabha et Pillai, 1986	Platax teira	Trivandrum, India
A. plectorhynchi Yamaguti, 1936	Diagramma pictum (= Plectorhynchus pictus) (= Spilotiehthys pictus)	Japan Trivandrum India
A quadrilaterus Shiino 1954	(- sphoneninys pienas) Zenonsis nebulosa (Temminck et Schlegel)	Ianan
A. renalis Heegaard, 1945	Diodon sp.	Japan
A. rotundigenitalis Hameed, 1976	"Diagramma crassispinum Day"	Cape Comorin, India
A. rotundus Prabha et Pillai, 1983	Pomacanthodes imperator	Trivandrum, India
A. serratus Shiino, 1954	Naso hexacanthus	Hawaii
	Siganus javus (Linnaeus)	Trivandrum, India
	Xesurus scalprum (Cuvier et Valenciennes)	Wakayama, Japan
A. shiinoii Prabha et Pillai, 1986	Naso sp.	Trivandrum, India
A. yamagutii Prabha et Pillai, 1986	Plectorhinchus cinctus (Temminck et Schlegel)	Kuwait
	Diagramma pictum (= Spilotichthys pictus)	Trivandrum, India

Table 1. Species of Anuretes nominated since the erection of the genus.

Note: Information shown in this table was compiled from the following works: Capart (1953), Causey (1953, 1955, 1960), Dojiri (1983), Hameed (1976), Heegaard (1945), Ho and Sey (1996), Kabata (1965), Krøyer (1863), Lewis (1964), Pearse (1951), Pillai and Mohan (1965), Prabha and Pillai (1983, 1986), Price (1966), Rangnekar (1953), Shiino (1954), Wilson (1913, 1935), Yamaguti (1936), and Yamaguti and Yamasu (1959).

Pillai (1983) found *L. rotundigenitalis* in the gill cavities of a somber sweetlips, *Plectorhinchus* (= *Gaterin*) *schotaf* (Forsskål), from Trivandrum, India. Although the species was placed in *Lepeophtheirus* and claimed to be unique in bridging "the gap between several genera of Lepeophtheirinae and Anuretinae", Prabha and Pillai's (1983) description of this species fits well to the six features given above for the species of *Anuretes*. However, it can not be transferred to *Anuretes* without a name change, because the specific name is preoccupied (see Table 1). Thus, we propose to call it "*Anuretes occultus* nom. n." implying the fourth pediger of this species is entirely concealed underneath the free margin of the cephalothorax.

Pillai and Mohan (1965) transferred Anuretes branchialis Rangnekar, 1953 to Heniochophilus, which was established to contain one species, *H. japonicus*, by Yamaguti and Yamasu (1959). At the time of this transfer, it was also recognised by Pillai and Mohan (1965) that *H. japonicus* was conspecific with "Heinochophilus branchialis". The genus Heniochophilus remained monotypic until Pillai (1977) described *H. indicus* from a spadefish, Platax teira (Forsskål), from Kerala, India. However, after reexamination of "Heniochophilus branchialis" recovered from the spadefishes from Sri Lanka and Southeast Asia kept in ichthyological collection at National Museum of Natural History, Dojiri (1983) proposed the synonymy of *Heniochophilus* with *Anuretes* and returned *H. branchialis* to its original status proposed by Rangnekar (1953) and also transferred *H. indicus* to *Anuretes*.

Thus, in conclusion, with removal of five species (*A. chelatus, A. fedderni, A. furcatus, A. parvulus, A. re-nalis*) and addition of three species (*L. fallolunulus, L. rotundigenitalis,* and *H. indicus*), there are now 19 species of caligid copepods attributed to *Anuretes,* including the new species reported herein.

#### Key to the species of the genus Anuretes

In compiling morphological data for construction of a key to the species, it was discovered that *A. yamagutii* Prabha et Pillai, 1986 is synonymous with *A. anomalus* Pillai, 1967 and "*Anuretes plectorhynchi* Yamaguti" reported by Prabha and Pillai (1986) is in essence a new species. Therefore, according to Article 60 of the International Code of Zoological Nomenclature, we propose to call the latter "*Anuretes similis* nom. n." implying its close resemblance to *A. plectorhynchi*. Prabha and Pillai's (1986) description of "*Anuretes plectorhynchi* Yamaguti" shows that it differs from Yamaguti's (1936) *A. plectorhynchi* in the possession of (1) maxillary whip, (2) the fourth pediger not covered by the free margin of the cephalothorax, and (3) larger genital complex (relative to cephalothoracic shield).

As generally true for the caligid copepods, the species of *Anuretes* are mostly known from the female; thus, the key provided below is intended for the identification of female *Anuretes*. Inasmuch as *A. brevis* Pearse is known only from the male and has not been adequately described, it is excluded from the following key.

- 1 Armature of leg 4 exopod I,II ..... 2

- Length of genital complex about 1/4 that of cephalothoracic shield, 6 setae on terminal segment of leg 3 endopod ...... A. rotundus Prabha et Pillai, 1983
- 3 Dentiform process of maxillule simple ...... 4

- 5 Inner surface of leg 3 protopod extended posteriorly into a large, heavily chitinised, blunt-tipped

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process; outer spine on first segment of leg 2 exopod simple ..... A. menehune Lewis, 1964 Inner surface of leg 3 endopod without such process; outer spine on first egment of leg 2 exopod ramified 6 Length of genital complex greater than 1/2 of cephalothoracic shield, posterior setae of leg 1 exopod simple, reduced ...... A. fallolunulus (Lewis, 1967) Length of genital complex shorter than 1/2 of cephalothoracic shield, posterior setae of leg 1 exopod plumose, long ...... A. serratus Shiino, 1954 7 Fourth pediger completely covered by free margin of Fourth pediger not covered by free margin of cepha-Length of genital complex greater than 1/2 that of 8 cephalothorax, 2 setae on terminal segment of leg 3 endopod ...... A. branchialis Rangnekar, 1953 Length of genital complex shorter than 1/2 that of cephalothorax, 6 setae on terminal segment of leg 3 endopod ...... A. plectorhynchi Yamaguti, 1936 9 Maxillary whip present ..... 11 10 Maxilliped corpus with sharp, median protuberance; 7 plumose setae on terminal segment of leg 3 exopod ...... A. perplexus Bassett-Smith, 1898 \_ Maxilliped corpus without median protuberance, 9 (4 simple + 5 plumose) setae on terminal segment of leg 3 exopod ...... A. quadrilaterus Shiino, 1954 11 Terminal segment of leg 3 exopod with 9 elements Terminal segment of leg 3 exopod with 8 elements ..... 13 Terminal segment of leg 3 exopod with 7 elements ..... 14 12 Length of genital complex less than 1/2 that of cephalothorax; leg 6 tipped with 4 plumose setae ...... A. anomalus Pillai, 1967 Length of genital complex greater than 1/2 that of cephalothorax, leg 6 tipped with 3 plumose setae 13 Length of genital complex almost as long as that of cephalothorax, maxillary whip with simple, long setiform process .. A. rotundigenitalis Hameed, 1976 Length of genital complex about 1/2 that of cephalothorax; maxillary whip with a pair of short setiform processes ...... A. similis nom. n. Length of genital complex greater than that of 14 cephalothorax; maxilliped corpus without median protrusion ...... A. occultus nom. n. Length of genital complex less than 1/2 that of cephalothorax; maxilliped corpus with sharply pointed, median protrusion .....

...... *A. hoi* Prabha et Pillai, 1986

Acknowledgements. We would like to thank Jin-Ho Hwang for his kindness in making the necessary arrangements for us to purchase the fishes landed at the Mi-Tuo Fishing Port. Our appreciation is also due to Jia-Leng Hwang, Pin-Ju Wu and Wei-Shen Tzeng of the National Chiayi Institute of Technology for their assistance in transportation and examination of fishes. The field and laboratory works of this study was made possible through the grant (NSC 88-2313-B-

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021-018) from the National Science Council of Taiwan to Ching-Long Lin and another grant (NSC 88-2811-B-021-0001) from the same agent to Ju-shey Ho. Comments and suggestions made by two anonymous reviewers contributed greatly to the improvement of the quality of this paper. Completion of this study was partly funded by a grant from the Paramitas Foundation to Ju-shey Ho.

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Accepted 31 March 2000

Received 17 January 2000