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J. LAURENS BARNARD

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SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

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Publications of the United States National Museum

The scientific publications of the United States National Museum include two series, Proceedings of the United States National Museum and United States National Museum Bulletin.

In these series are published original articles and monographs dealing with the collections and work of the Museum and setting forth newly acquired facts in the fields of anthropology, biology, geology, history, and technology. Copies of each publication are distributed to libraries and scientific organizations and to specialists and others interested in the various subjects.

The Proceedings, begun in 1878, are intended for the publication, in separate form, of shorter papers. These are gathered in volumes, octavo in size, with the publication date of each paper recorded in the table of contents of the volume.

In the Bulletin series, the first of which was issued in 1875, appear longer, separate publications consisting of monographs (occasionally in several parts) and volumes in which are collected works on related subjects. Bulletins are either octavo or quarto in size, depending on the needs of the presentation. Since 1902, papers relating to the botanical collections of the Museum have been published in the Bulletin series under the heading Contributions from the United States National Herbarium.

This work forms number 258 of the Bulletin series.

Frank A. Taylor Director, United States National Museum

Abstract

A survey of intertidal gammaridean Amphipoda of the southern half of California is based on 360 + quantitative and non-quantitative samples taken primarily in the *Phyllospadix*-pelvetiid zone below mean low water. The samples were collected at 7 rocky intertidal sites from Monterey Bay to La Jolla. The coastal region embraces portions of both warm- and cold-temperate environments and as a result the distributional limits of many northern and southern species were expected to occur in the region. The logic of this supposition is shown by the analysis of 139 species, 39 of which occur primarily north and 30 primarily south of Pt. Conception. Of the remainder, 31 occur on both sides of the point in equal density and the distributions of 39 are poorly known. About 20 additional species occur in the intertidal zone only as strays from deeper water.

A checklist of 155+ species from the Californian intertidal is presented. Nineteen species and 4 genera are described for the first time.

About 20 species of Amphipoda are numerically dominant in the intertidal zone, 2-4 of each occurring dominantly in each of several habitats, such as the *Phyllospadix*-pelvetiid zone, kelp holdfasts, articulated corallines, sponges and tunicates, and phragmatopomid masses. Localities impoverished of flora owing to heavy surf or sand scouring are dominated by different species of Amphipoda than those localities having dense floral stands. *Lysianassa macromerus* is believed to be an indicator of sedimentary inundation while *Otigochinus lighti* and *Parallorchestes ochotensis* are believed to be indicators of heavy surf conditions. Most of the dominant Amphipoda belong to diverse, rather than to monotypic genera.

Domiciliary Amphipoda comprise more than a third of the species of the Californian fauna but their tubes apparently are so fragile that they never form the bulk of intertidal fouling organisms. In contrast, amphipodan tubes often dominate pilings in protected harbors.

The Phyllospadix-pelvetiid zone is shown to support 72 species throughout the coastal region but a maximum of 47 occurs at any one locality (Cayucos). Intermixture of northern and southern species is very strong at Cayucos, adjacent to Pt. Conception.

Kelp stipes of the intertidal zone are poorly populated with Amphipoda, except those of Egregia having numerous individuals of Hyale rubra frequens and Amphilochus litoralis. Holdfasts of kelps in intertidal zones are small but heavily populated with Amphipoda, most of which are identical with those of the Phyllospadix-pelvetiid zone. Kelp holdfasts from subintertidal depths have a different amphipodan fauna from those of intertidal zones. More than 35 species of Amphipoda have been found in one holdfast of Macrocystis pyrifera in 3 m. of water. The largest Amphipoda of Californian coastal shallows, Cymadusa uncinata, inhabit the largest kelps. Articulated coralline algae are densely populated with a poorly diversified amphipodan fauna and few Amphipoda are restricted to that substrate. In contrast, more than a dozen species of Amphipoda inhabit sponges and tunicates obligatorily. Interstitial rock nestlers and intertidal sedimentary burrowers occurring under rocks also are very scarce.

Those taxonomic problems of particular interest concern the identifications and nomenclature of various species of Hyale, Lysian-assa, Elasmopus, and Ischyrocerus.

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