TWO NEW MARINE AMPHIPODS FROM MASSACHUSETTS, U.S.A.

BY

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Specimens of two undescribed species of gammaridean amphipods were found in collections of macrobenthic organisms taken in shallow waters of southeastern Massachusetts and Connecticut. Material was examined from collections made in Great Harbor, Woods Hole; the vicinity of Hadley's Harbor, near Woods Hole; Lake Tashmoo, a small saltwater embayment of Vineyard Sound in Martha's Vineyard Island, Massachusetts; Great Neck Beach, Wareham, Massachusetts; and Mystic River estuary, Mystic, Connecticut. The first species herein described, a member of the genus Microprotopus, family Photidae, was found at all Massachusetts localities mentioned above. The second species, a member of the genus Lirtriella, family Liljeborgiidae, was found only in Lake Tashmoo, Martha's Vineyard; Great Harbor, Woods Hole; and Mystic River estuary, Connecticut. Both species are rather small benthic forms, body length 5 mm or less, and both belong to genera containing moderately few species. This is the third species of Microprotopus and the ninth species of Lirtriella.

I am grateful to Charles L. Wheeler, Roger B. Theroux, and Timothy W. Robbins for their assistance in collecting specimens, and to Frank A. Bailey for inking figures 1 and 7. I wish to thank Dr. Pierre Brunel, Station de Biologie marine, Grande-Rivière, Canada, for loaning two amphipod specimens collected in Connecticut waters. Also, I am indebted to Dr. E. L. Bousfield, National Museum of Canada, Ottawa, Canada, and Dr. Robert H. Parker, Marine Biological Laboratory, Woods Hole, Massachusetts, for permitting me to examine specimens in their collections.

Microprotopus Norman, 1866

For a diagnosis of this genus, and of the family Photidae to which it belongs, see Stebbing, 1906.

Existing literature contains descriptions of 4 amphipod species that can be considered members of the genus Microprotopus. M. longimanus Chevreux and M. maculatus Norman occur in European waters and both have been fully and accurately described. However, the remaining 2 species, M. emissitius (Dana) from the Sooloo (= Sulu) Sea, Philippines, and M. hirsuticornis (Dana) from the Bay of Rio Janeiro (= Rio de Janeiro, Brazil), are insufficiently described for
reliable recognition. This genus has not previously been reported from the western North Atlantic Ocean. So far as known, all members of this genus are small benthic forms that inhabit coastal waters less than 22 meters deep.

**Microprotopus raneyi** 1) new species (figs. 1-4)

Material examined. — Holotype, adult female, 2.2 mm in length (U.S. National Museum No. 111213), and 1 paratype, female, 2.1 mm in length, collected April 5, 1962, at Lake Tashmoo, an arm of Vineyard Sound, near the village of Vineyard Haven on Martha's Vineyard, Massachusetts. Water depth 2 to 3 m, water temperature 5.5° C, and sediment a silty sand with a few stones and small patches of *Zostera* and algae. Allotype, an adult male, 2.2 mm in length (U.S. National Museum No. 111214) plus 1 male, 1.9 mm in length, and 6 females with lengths of 1.8, 2.0, 2.1, 2.2, 2.2, and 2.7 mm, collected September 12, 1962, in Great Harbor, Woods Hole. Water depth 3 to 5 m, water temperature 18° C, sediment a silty sand. November 13, 1962, the following were collected in Lake Tashmoo, Martha's Vineyard: males 0.9, 1.5, 2.0, 2.0, 2.0, 2.2 mm in length; females 1.3, 1.5, 1.6, 2.2 mm in length. Water depth 2 to 3 m, water temperature 9.7° C, sediment primarily silty sand with some gravel and small patches of *Zostera*. Specimens listed above which are not deposited in the National Museum at Washington, D. C., are in the collection at the Bureau of Commercial Fisheries Biological Laboratory, Woods Hole.

Five male specimens having approximate body length of 1.8, 1.8, 1.9, 2.0, 2.0 mm, were collected by Robert H. Parker on August 18, 1964, at Station P-134-64 in the vicinity of Hadley's Harbor, Naushon Island (near Woods Hole), Massachusetts. Water depth at this locality 1 meter, water temperature 20.5° C, salinity 32.02‰, sediment sand. Also in the Hadley's Harbor area, Robert H. Parker collected 1 male approximately 3 mm in length, and 1 female about 2.2 mm in

1) This species is named in honor of Professor Edward C. Raney, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York.