ASPIDOMOLGUS STOICHACTINUS N. GEN., N. SP. (COPEPODA, CYCLOPOIDA) ASSOCIATED WITH AN ACTINIARIAN IN THE WEST INDIES

BY

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The copepods were first recovered from sea anemones which had been thoroughly washed in about 5 per cent ethyl alcohol in sea water. Such washing, however, stimulated the production of a large amount of mucus, which interfered with the recovery of the copepods. Later the amount of alcohol was reduced to about 1 per cent and the anemones were well shaken in this mixture in a closed jar. The residue was then poured through a fine net, where part of the mucus was gently rinsed out by a stream of fresh water. Most of the copepods, particularly the small copepodids, were found in debris taken from the net, still entangled with mucus. The copepods apparently live in the gastrovascular cavity, since they were recovered in greatest numbers after the anemones had been thoroughly shaken during the washing.

All the figures have been drawn with the aid of a camera lucida. The letter after the explanation of each figure refers to the scale at which it was drawn. The measurements have been made in all cases from specimens in lactic acid. The abbreviations used are: A₁ = first antenna, A₂ = second antenna, L = labrum, MXPD = maxilliped, P₁ = leg 1, and P₅ = leg 5.

Aspidomolgus n. gen.

Prosome in the female shield-shaped, expanded, and orbicular, with the tergum of the segment of leg 4 overlapping the urosome. Prosome in the male similar,
but the tergum of the segment of leg 4 not expanded, and the orbicular outline completed by the large broadened genital segment. Segment of leg 1 fused with the head. Urosome 5-segmented in the female, 6-segmented in the male. First antenna 7-segmented. Second antenna 3-segmented, the second segment in the male bearing a sucker. Mandible lichomolgid, with a flagellum. Maxilliped in the female digitiform and 2-segmented; in the male 4-segmented, the fourth segment probably represented by part of the terminal claw.

Legs 1-3 with trimerous rami. Leg 4 with a 3-segmented exopod and 1-segmented endopod with the formula II,1. (This endopod sometimes with a weak indication of division.) First segment of the exopod in legs 1-4 unusually elongated. Leg 5 with the free segment bearing two terminal elements.

Other features as in the species described below.

Associated with the actiniarian genus *Stoechactis*.

Type and only known species: *Aspidomolgus stoichactinus* n. sp.

Etymology. — The generic name (gender masculine) is a combination of ασπίς = a round shield and μολγύς = a sack made of leather.

*Aspidomolgus stoichactinus* n. sp.

(Adults, figures 1-38; copepodids III, IV, and V, figures 39-68)

Type material. — 253 ♀, 81 ♂, and 109 copepodids from 97 *Stoechactis helianthus* (Ellis), in 1 m, in front of the Bellairs Research Institute, St. James, Barbados. Collected July 23, 1959. Holotype ♀, allotype, and 263 paratypes (210 ♀, 53 ♂) deposited in the United States National Museum, and the remaining paratypes in the collection of the author.

Other specimens (all collected in 1959 from *Stoechactis helianthus*). —

Barbados: 3 ♀, 4 ♂, and 35 copepodids from 13 hosts, in 1.5 m, in front of the Bellairs Research Institute, St. James, June 17.

Bahamas: 19 ♀, 2 ♂, and 7 copepodids from 12 hosts, in 0.5 m, Turtle Rock, South Bimini.

Puerto Rico: 4 ♀, 9 ♂, and 7 copepodids from 3 hosts, in 1 m, Cayo Corral, south of La Parguera, July 30; 10 ♀, 14 ♂, and 27 copepodids from 8 hosts, in 1 m, Arrecife Romero, southeast of La Parguera, Aug. 12; 10 ♀, 25 ♂, and 42 copepodids from 18 hosts, in 1 m, La Cueva, west of La Parguera, Aug. 14; and 5 ♂ from 14 hosts, in 1 m, Cayo Terremoto, southeast of La Parguera, Aug. 1.

Jamaica: 1 ♂ and 113 copepodids from 6 hosts, in 1 m, Lime Cay, off Kingston Harbor; Aug. 30.

Female. — The body (figs. 1, 2) has a shield-shaped, laterally expanded, orbicular prosome, which in dorsal view partly conceals the urosome. The length is 1.84 mm (1.60-2.02 mm) and the greatest width is 1.57 mm (1.47-1.82 mm), based on 21 specimens. The segment of leg 1 is fused with the head. The cephalosome is semilunar in dorsal view. The segments of legs 2 and 3 have winglike epimera. The segment of leg 4 has a large flaplike subrectangular tergum, its posterior border indented medially. The ratio of length to width of the prosome is 1.04 : 1.

The segment of leg 5 (fig. 3) is 330 × 440 μ. Between this segment and the genital segment there is no ventral intersegmental sclerite. The subrectangular genital segment is broader than long, 385 × 473 μ, its ventral surface rather flattened and its lateral margins moderately acute. The areas of attachment of the egg sacs are located dorsolaterally in the anterior part of the segment. Each