NOTES AND NEWS

OBSERVATION OF ACARTIA (ACARTIELLA) FAOENSIS (COPEPODA, CALANOIDA, ACARTIIDAE) NEAR BUBIYAN ISLAND IN THE NORTH OF KUWAIT

BY

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During oceanographic cruises for zooplankton sampling near Bubiyan Island, specimens of both sexes as well as juveniles (21 males, 10 females, and 44 juveniles of different stages) of Acartia (Acartiella) faoensis Khalaf, 1991 were found at station BUB-6 (figs. 1-4). This station was located at 29°53’24.6″N 48°09’29.8″E, and the sample was collected on 20 March 2004 (~8 m depth with surface salinity and surface temperature of 31.476‰ and 17.542°C, respectively). This species was first reported from Khor Al-Zubair and Khor Abdulla, Iraq, in 1991 (Khalaf, 1991), which locations are situated not far from Bubiyan Island (an area where the Shatt Al-Arab River flows into from Iraq). In Kuwait, we only observed this species close to Bubiyan Island but nowhere else along the Kuwaiti coast, so it could be indigenous to that region. This is because, until now, no occurrence of this species from any other region has been reported worldwide.

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Fig. 1. *Acartia (Acartiella) faoensis* Khalaf, 1991, copepodite stages I-VI. a–f, respective dorsal views (f an adult male); g–k, antennules of stages I-V, respectively. Scale bars: 0.2 mm. [After Khalaf, 2007.]