

OCCURRENCE OF TWO CANUELLID NAUPLII (COPEPODA, CRUSTACEA) IN SÃO SEBASTIÃO CHANNEL AND VICINITY

Tagea BJORNBERG (CEBIMAR – USP)

Gloria S. MOREIRA (Dept. Fisiologia – IBUSP)

Fabio Lang da SILVEIRA (Dept. Zoologia – IBUSP)

André C. MORANDINI (Dept. Zoologia – IBUSP)

ABSTRACT

Two Canuellid nauplii (stage I) are briefly described from the waters of São Sebastião Channel and vicinity: one is planktonic and quite frequent, and, the other, benthic. Both resemble other Canuellid nauplii known, but differ mainly in having a ventral posterior process, a very thin transparent tongue-like structure. This is the first record of Canuellidae copepods in Brazilian waters.

KEYWORDS; Canuellidae, Copepoda, nauplii, coastal water, Brazil.

INTRODUCTION

Lang (1948) placed the families Longipediidae and Canuellidae in the Sectio Polyarthra. *Longipedia*, of the first family, has been found in Santos bay waters since 1952 (Paiva Carvalho, 1952). Its nauplius occurs abundantly off São Sebastião in the plankton and the adults in the sandy bottom of the Channel. Canuellidae nauplii were found recently in the Channel waters (Bjornberg, pers. obs.).

Although resembling closely other nauplii of the same family figured in the literature (Vincx & Heip, 1979; Dahms, 1990; Gurney, 1930, *apud* Lang, 1948), the São Sebastião nauplii show features which distinguish them from the already known species. Besides the planktonic specimen, a benthic specimen was collected over the shelly bottom near to Itassucê Island, situated in the Channel's vicinity.

METHODS

The planktonic nauplius was caught with a 30 µm meshed plankton net. The benthic specimen was collected with a special net (Wakabara *et al.*, 1993) pulled manually over the bottom. The metal frame of the mouth of the latter net was flat on one side and arched on the other, fitted with a 300µm meshed netting on the inside and a 10µm meshed bag 1 m long on the outside. It was pulled over the bottom, flat side downwards to catch the hyperbenthos. Both nauplii were fixed in 4% formalin and drawn with the help of a Labophot Nikon microscope fitted with a camera lucida.

