

OCCURRENCE OF *GONODACTYLELLUS AFFINIS* (DE MAN, 1902) (CRUSTACEA, STOMATOPODA, GONODACTYLIDAE) FROM PACHA BEACH, SINDH (PAKISTAN)

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ABSTRACT

Gonodactylellus affinis (de Man, 1902) (Crustacea, Stomatopoda, Gonodactylidae) is recorded from Pacha beach, Sindh, Pakistan for the first time. This is the third record for the genus *Gonodactylellus* from Pakistan.

Key Words: Genus *Gonodactylellus*, *Gonodactylellus affinis*, Stomatopoda, Pacha beach, Sindh, Pakistan

INTRODUCTION

Previously, *Gonodactylellus demanii* (Henderson, 1893) as *Gonodactylus demanii* from Western end of Astola Island and Karachi and *G. lanchesteri* (Manning, 1967) as *Gonodactylus lanchesteri* from near Karachi have been recorded from Pakistan (Kemp, 1913; Manning, 1967; Tirmizi and Mannig, 1968). *Gonodactylellus affinis* (de Man, 1902) has previously been reported from Saudi Arabia, Comoros, Kenya, Madagascar, Seychelles, India (Lakshadweep), Indonesia, Maldives, Philippines, Thailand, Viet Nam, Australia, French Polynesia and New Caledonia (Moosa, 1991; Moosa, 2000). *G. affinis* (de Man 1902) is recorded from Pakistan first time and is briefly described here. This will be the third record for the genus *Gonodactylellus* from Pakistan.

Material: One specimen, unsexed, approximately 40mm, collected 7 October, 1995, Pacha, Karachi, Pakistan.

Description:

Anterolateral angles of rostrum acute. Ocular scales small. Carinae of sixth abdominal somite tubular, each ending in a posterior spinule. Mid-dorsal carinae on telson 3 pairs; median inflated, ending in a posterior spine; accessory median short, with a posterior spinule; 3 pairs of marginal teeth on telson -sub median pair with movable apices, denticles many; intermediate pair with two denticles; lateral pair distinct but small.



Fig. 1. *Gonodactylellus affinis* (de Man, 1902), dorsal view.

Remarks: This is a polymorphic species, mentioned to inhabit coral rubble at 3–50 m; common below 10 m, the present specimen was collected from intertidal region at Pacha, a beach on the Sindh side of River Hub bank where cobbles and boulders were present. The size mentioned in literature is 7–35 mm, usually less than 25 mm, the present specimen is a little larger than what is recorded.

Colour: Mottled green and cream, meral spot white, light band extending across anterior telson and uropods (Fig.1).

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