

Travaux du Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle «Grigore Antipa»	Vol. XLIX	pp. 69–74	© Octobre 2006
---	-----------	-----------	-------------------

**MSANGIA TARANGENSIS, A NEW SPECIES
(CRUSTACEA: TANAIDACEA: APSEUDOMORPHA)
FROM THE THAI WATERS OF THE ANDAMAN SEA**

MODEST GUȚU, SAOWAPA ANGSUPANICH

Abstract. The new species, *Msangia tarangensis* n. sp., is described and illustrated. The main features of this new species consist in the number of articles of uropod endopodite (only four, compared with five articles in the other two species of the genus) and in the rough aspect of the proximoinner surface of the first article of the antennule peduncle.

Résumé. La nouvelle espèce, *Msangia tarangensis* n. sp., est décrite et illustrée. Les caractéristiques principales de cette nouvelle espèce sont le nombre des articles de l'endopodite d'uropod (seulement quatre, par rapport à cinq articles dans les deux autres espèces du genre) et l'aspect rugueux de la surface proximale intérieure du premier article du pédoncule de l'antennule.

Key words: *Msangia tarangensis* n. sp., Msangiinae, Metapseudidae, Thailand, Andaman Sea.

Băcescu (1976) described a monotypic genus, *Msangia*, from the shallow waters of the Tanzanian coast. Guțu and Angsupanich (2004) recorded for the first time a species of the same genus in the Thai waters of the Andaman Sea. Guțu (2006) discovered the second species, *Msangia bacescui*, also from Tanzania. A minute analysis of the specimen from Thailand has proved it to be a new species, which is described and illustrated in this paper.

Regarding the systematic position of the genus *Msangia*, Guțu (2006) classified it in a separate subfamily, Msangiinae, belonging to the family Metapseudidae.

***Msangia tarangensis* n. sp.**

(Figs 1, 2)

Material: 1 female with oostegites, from Tarang Island, Andaman Sea, Thailand, from a bottom covered with fragments of dead corals and coarse and fine sands; depth, about 5 m, 3 April 2004. Leg. Modest Guțu.

Holotype, preserved in the Collections of "Grigore Antipa" National Museum of Natural History, Bucharest, No. 250,358.

Description of the female with oostegites

Body (Fig. 1 A), long and narrow with parallel sides, approximately ten times longer than the breadth of the carapace. Standard length, 1.56 mm.

Carapace, a little longer than the first two pereonites (measured together) and about 1.5 times narrower than their length, with two small setae on each side. Rostrum short, rounded anteriorly. Ocular lobes indefinite, with obvious visual elements.

Pereon with relatively short and smooth pereonites, each having two small setae on the first anterolateral corner. First pereonite, as long as the fifth, slightly shorter than the pereonites two-four, but longer than the sixth pereonite.

Pleon, as long as the last five pereonites, with five free short pleonites and a long pleotelson, the latter being equal to the length of the carapace. Each pleonite with two anterolateral simple setae and a small spiniform posterolateral prolongation, hard to see, ended in three subequal setae. Pleotelson with two small proximodorsal setae, four ones, subequal, on the midlateral margins and other six simple setae, distally; caudally with an obvious prolongation ending in two simple setae (Fig. 1 E).

Antennule (Fig. 1 B), longer than the carapace, biramous. First peduncle article, longer than the following three articles, with five simple setae: one proximoinerly, two distoinerly and another two distoexternally; other two broom setae are present distoexternally; proximoinner side rough. Second peduncle article, about three times shorter than the first one, with five subequal simple setae, distally. Third peduncle article, as long as the second but a little narrower, with two distal setae. Outer flagellum, three-articled; first and second articles with one simple seta and one aesthetasc, and the last article with three long simple setae on top and one smaller, subterminally. Inner flagellum two-articled (without common article), each article having three simple setae, longer on the last article.

Antenna (Fig. 1 C) very small, six-articled, without squama. First article much larger than others. Second article, smaller than the first but almost equal to the following, with one strong simple seta. Third article slightly shorter than the second one. Fourth article, a little longer than the previous, with one short simple seta. Last two articles short, the latter having one long simple seta.

Mouth parts unstudied.

Cheliped (Fig. 1 D) slender, without exopodite. Basis short and thick, about 1.5 times longer than broad, with two spiniform setae in the last half of the sternal margin and another one, smaller, proximotergally. Merus, a little shorter but much narrower than the basis, with three short setae, one of them laterally and the other two, distosternally. Carpus long, approximately two times longer than the basis, wider distally and about 5.3 times longer than the median breadth, with two sternal subequal short setae and other two, distally and distotergally. Propodus, shorter but much wider than the carpus, with a well developed fixed finger having three setae on the sternal side and five others, longer, in the inner margin; claw stout. Dactylus curved, slightly thinner than the fixed finger; claw slightly smaller than the same of fixed finger.

Pereopod II (Fig. 2 A), a little shorter than the cheliped length, without exopodite. Basis thin, only a little shorter than the merus, carpus and propodus measured together, with one distosternal small seta. Ischium well developed, with one sternal seta. Merus, approximately as long as propodus but slightly longer than the carpus, with two distosternal subequal setae and another one, distotergally. Carpus, with two spines and two setae, sternally, and one spine and three long setae, distally and distotergally. Propodus, as wide as other articles, with three spines, one simple and one serrate seta on the sternal margin, and one spine and one long seta, distotergally. Dactylus thick, with one tergal small seta and another one, smaller, distosternally; claw relatively small.

Pereopod III (Fig. 2 B) and *pereopod IV* relatively similar to pereopod II but a little smaller than that.

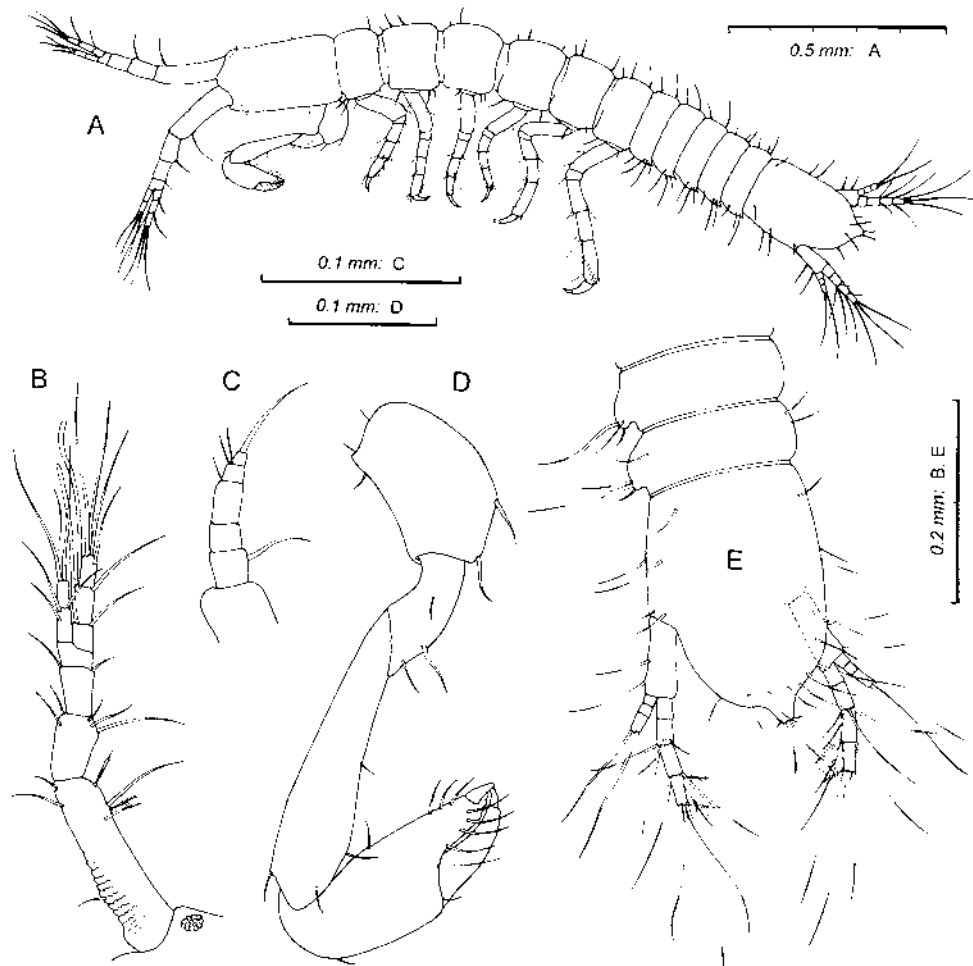


Fig. 1 – *Msangia tarangensis* n. sp., female, holotype: A, body, laterodorsal; B, antennule; C, antenna; D, cheliped; E, last two pleonites, pleotelson and uropods, laterodorsal.

Pereopod V (Figs 2 C, F) as long as the preceding pereopod, with one distosternal seta on basis and ischium. Merus, a little shorter than the carpus, with two distosternal spiniform setae and another one, distotergally. Carpus with three distosternal spines and one long seta, and one spine and one seta, distally and distotergally. Propodus, as long as the carpus, with two sternal spines and eight subequal serrate setae, one of them much longer, distally and distotergally; mediotergal with one broom seta (Fig. 2 F). Dactylus well developed; claw, relatively small, curved.

Pereopod VI (Fig. 2 D), longer than the previous pereopods, with relatively short basis, the latter having two broom setae proximotergally and two other simple setae, sternally. Ischium well developed, about two times shorter than the carpus, with one sternodistal seta. Merus, slightly longer than the carpus, but shorter than the propodus, with one-two setae in each distal corner. Carpus with two subequal

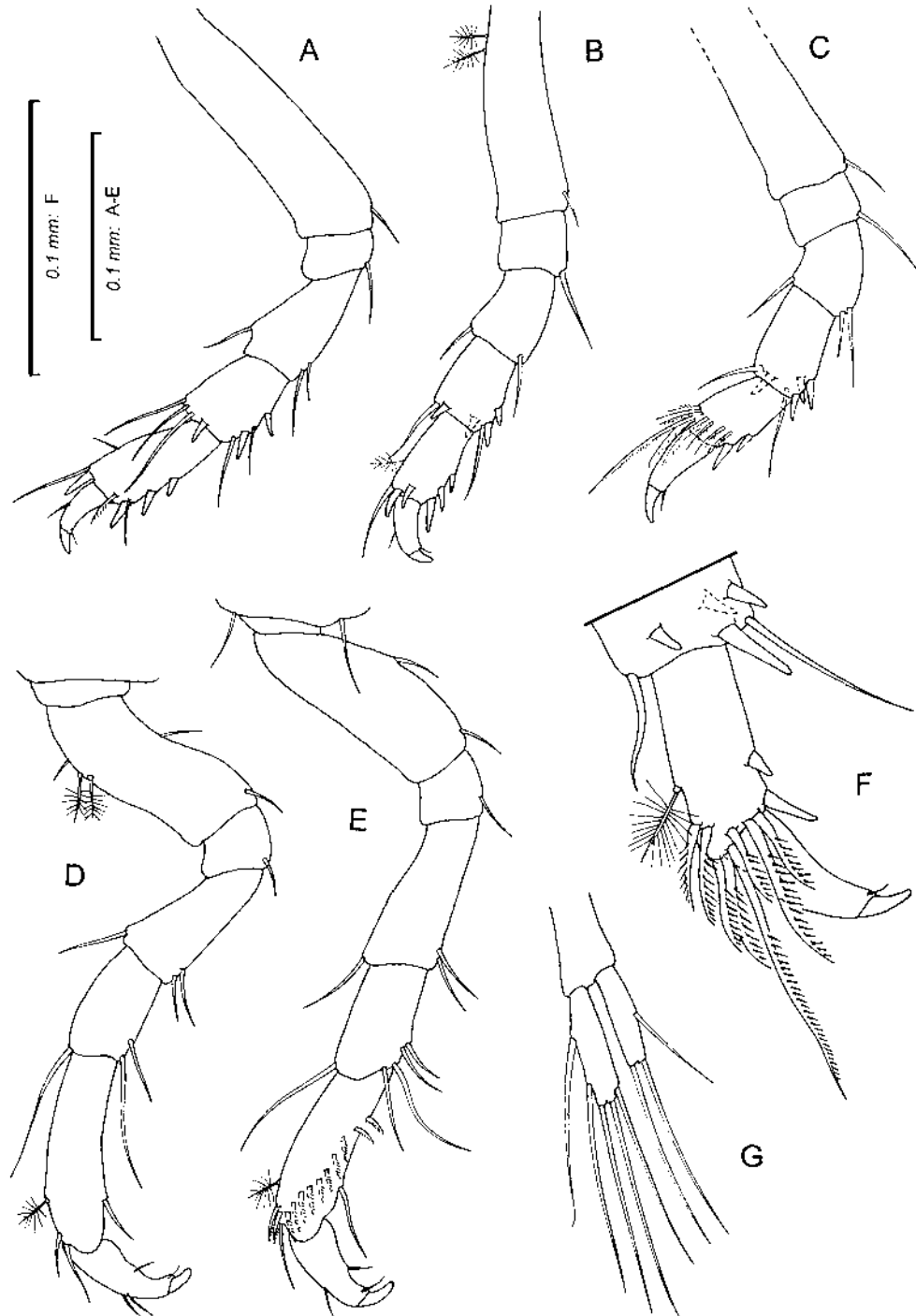


Fig. 2 – *Msangia tarangensis* n. sp., female, holotype: A-E, pereopods II, III, V, VI and VII; F, carpus (last end), propodus and dactylus of pereopod V; G, pleopod (schematic).

distosternal setae and one other, long, distotergally. Propodus, a little longer than the ischium and merus, measured together, with one distosternal spiniform seta; distotergally with two subequal setae; tergally with one broom seta. Dactylus well developed; together with its claw has the same length as the carpus.

Pereopod VII (Fig. 2 E) relatively similar to the previous pereopod, excepting the setulation of the propodus, which has a diagonal row of 12-13 serrate setae.

Pleopods (Fig. 2 G) biramous, uniaarticled, in five pairs. Protopodite relatively short and thick. Exopodite, a little shorter than the endopodite, with one lateral and two terminal setae. Endopodite with one lateral, two subterminal and two distal setae.

Uropod (Fig. 1 E), short, biramous, joined at the midlateral side of the pleotelson. Protopodite well developed, slightly longer than the length of each pleonite, with two long simple setae on the outer side. Exopodite, three-articled, ending in two very long simple setae. Endopodite, a little longer than the protopodite, four-articled; second, third and fourth articles with two and three simple setae; each of the last two articles with one distoinner broom seta.

Type-locality. Tarang Island (Thai waters of the Andaman Sea).

Etymology. From the name of the island near which the specimen was collected.

Remarks. The main feature by which the new species differs from the other two known ones of the genus is the number of the articles of the inner branch of the uropod: only four in *Msangia tarangensis* n. sp. (Fig. 1 E), in comparison with five in the other species (Băcescu, 1976, fig. 3 A, B; Guțu, 2006, fig. 493).

Key to the species of the genus *Msangia*

- 1 - Uropod endopodite four-articled; inner surface of first article of antennule peduncle rough *M. tarangensis* n. sp.
- Uropod endopodite five-articled; inner surface of first article of antennule peduncle smooth 2
- 2 - Each pleonite shorter than the last pereonite; body length about 2 mm *M. larvoides* Băcescu, 1975
- Each pleonite about as long as last pereonite; body length about 1 mm *M. bacescui* Guțu, 2006

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The present paper is a part of the Cooperative Research Network Project, Ministry of Education, Thailand. The senior author expresses his gratitude to Prof. Dr. Saowapa Angsupanich (Department of Aquatic Science, Faculty of Natural Resources, Prince of Songkla University, Hat Yai, Thailand) who gave the opportunity to study the tanaidacean fauna of the Thai waters.

MSANGIA TARANGENSIS, O NOUĂ SPECIE (CRUSTACEA: TANAIDACEA: APSEUDOMORPHA) DIN APELE THAILANDEZE ALE MĂRII ANDAMAN

REZUMAT

Este descrisă specia *Msangia tarangensis* n. sp., care, deși foarte asemănătoare cu celelalte două ale genului (din apele Tanzaniei), se distinge prin câteva trăsături ușor de identificat. Este vorba, între altele, despre prezența unei rugozități situate la baza pedunculului antenulei și a numărului articulelor enopodului uropodal (patru la specia nouă, față de cinci la *M. larvoides* Băcescu, 1976 și *M. bacescui* Guțu, 2006).

LITERATURE CITED

- BĂCESCU, M., 1976 – Three new genera and six new species of Monokonophora (Crustacea, Tanaidacea) from the coral reefs of Tanzania. *University Science Journal*, 2 (1): 3-24.
- GUȚU, M., 2006 – New Apseudomorph taxa (Crustacea, Tanaidacea) of the World Ocean, Bucharest, 318 pp.
- GUȚU M., S. ANGSUPANICH, 2004 – Two new parapseudid species and some first records of Tanaidacea (Crustacea: Peracarida) from Thailand. *Travaux du Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle „Grigore Antipa”*, 47: 75-87.

Received: March 1, 2006

Accepted: April 17, 2006

Modest Guțu

Muzeul Național de Istorie Naturală „Grigore Antipa”

Șos. Kiseleff nr.1, 011341 București, 2, România

e-mail: mgutu@antipa.ro

Saowapa Angsupanich

Department of Aquatic Science

Faculty of Natural Resources

Prince of Songkla University

Hat Yai, Songkhla 90112, Thailand

e-mail: saowapa.a@psu.ac.th