

NOTES AND NEWS

NOTE ON THE OCCURRENCE OF A TERRESTRIAL ISOPOD, *HEMILEPISTUS KLUGII* (BRANDT) IN BALUCHISTAN, PAKISTAN

Marilyn Schotte

Department of Invertebrate Zoology, National Museum of Natural History,
Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C.20560, U.S.A.

During a computer-aided search of the Crustacea collection in the Department of Invertebrate Zoology at the Smithsonian Institution (USNM), a record was found for the existence of *Hemilepistus klugii* (Brandt, 1833) in Pakistan. One male (USNM-62994) of this terrestrial oniscidean from the family Porcellionidae was added to the collection in 1930 as part of the material obtained from K.W. Verhoeff, who probably also identified it. The type locality is given by Brandt as "Caucasus". The only locality data with the present specimen is "Baluchistan" and nothing more specific. It is characterized by large rounded tubercles on the cephalon and on the posterior edges of pereionites 1-3 (Fig.1). Since the genus is known from desert habitat - the strong dorsal tubercles are proposed as helpful in digging in sand - it is quite likely that it can be encountered in the desert areas and sandy dunes near the coast of Pakistan. Dorsal and lateral illustrations are given.

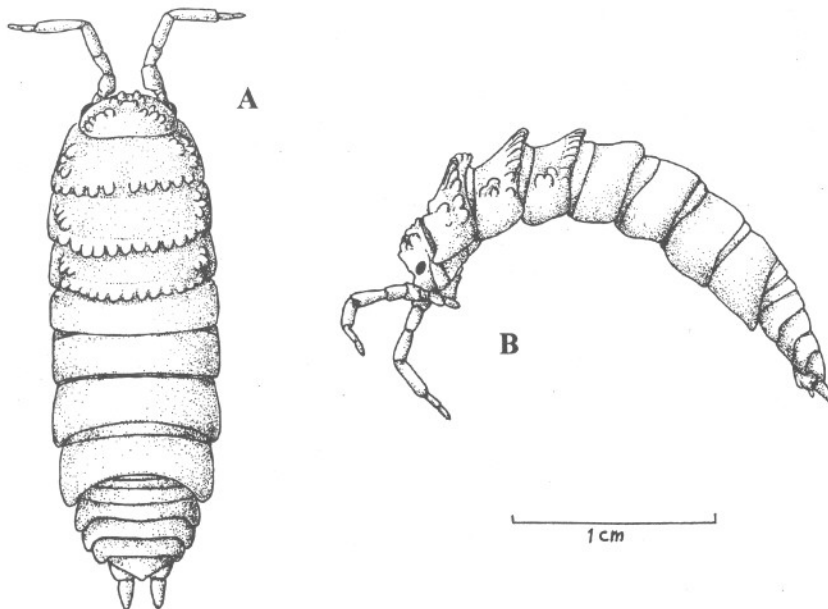


Fig. 1. *Hemilepistus klugii* male, A. dorsal habitus; B. lateral view.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I wish to thank Dr. Nasima M. Tirmizi and Dr. Quddusi B. Kazmi for support during my visit to the Marine Reference Collection and Resource Centre, University of Karachi.

REFERENCES

- Brandt, J.F., 1833. Conspectus monographie Crustaceorum Oniscodorum Latreillei. Bulletin de la societe Imperial du naturalistes de Moscou, 6: 171.