FIVE SPECIES OF *JAEROPSIS*
FROM THE SOUTHERN INDIAN OCEAN
(CRUSTACEA, ISOPODA, ASELLOTA)

By

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FIVE SPECIES OF JAEROPSIS FROM THE SOUTHERN INDIAN OCEAN (CRUSTACEA, ISOPODA, ASELLOTA)

By

BRIAN KENSLEY

South African Museum, Cape Town

(With 10 figures)

[MS accepted 10 March 1975]

ABSTRACT

Five species of Jaeropsis are figured and diagnosed. These include J. waltervadi, a new species from Walter’s Shoal, and J. beuroisi, a new species from St Paul and Amsterdam Islands, as well as J. paulensis Vanhöffen from St Paul and Amsterdam Islands, and J. curvicornis (Nicolet) from Marion Island. The common intertidal South African species, which was previously misidentified, is given a new name, i.e. J. stebbingi.

INTRODUCTION

Material of the genus Jaeropsis from the following sources necessitated this short report:

Two specimens from Walter’s Shoal (33.13S, 43.51E) collected by the R/V Anton Bruun during the International Indian Ocean Expedition in 1964.

One specimen from Marion Island (46.53S, 37.52E) collected by the third South African Biological Expedition to the island in 1972–3.

Numerous specimens of two species from St Paul Island (38.44S, 77.30E) and Amsterdam Island (37.55S, 77.40E) collected by the French Expedition to these islands in 1970–2.

In addition, the species commonly found intertidally around both the west and east coasts of South Africa was found to be misidentified, and has been included in this report.

In the accompanying figures, dimensions are in millimetres.

DESCRIPTION OF MATERIAL

Family Jaeropsidae

Genus Jaeropsis Koehler

Jaeropsis waltervadi sp. n.

Figs 1–2

Diagnosis

Cephalon dorsally broadly convex, with frontal plate anteriorly slightly concave, lateral margins smooth. Lateral margins of pleotelson bearing 7 small
Fig. 1. *Jaeropsis waltervadi* sp. n.
denticulations. Uropodal basis about as long as broad, inner distal angle rounded, unarmed, hardly extending beyond narrowly rounded pleotelsonic apex. Body with broadly rounded median raised area on pleotelson and Vth to VIIth pereionial segments, becoming a double, more defined ridge on pereionial segments I to IV.

Material

Holotype SAM-A13646 ♂ 2,9 mm Walter’s Shoal, 38–46 metres depth.
Paratype SAM-A13646 ♂ 2,4 mm Walter’s Shoal, 38–46 metres depth.

Remarks

The median dorsal ridge, unarmed uropodal basis, and shape of the frontal plate of this species make it distinct from any previously described species of *Jaeropsis*.

*Jaeropsis curvicornis* (Nicolet)

Figs 3–4


Diagnosis

Cephalon with frontal plate bearing small median point, lateral margins smooth. Lateral margins of pleotelson with single incision and stout seta. Uropodal basis longer than wide, with small hook on inner distal angle,
Fig. 3. Jaeropsis curvicornis (Nicolet)

Fig. 4. Jaeropsis curvicornis (Nicolet)

extending well beyond pleotelsonic apex. Body bearing broad band of red-brown pigment dorsally, expanded on cephalon to include eyes, also somewhat expanded on pleotelson.

Material
SAM–A13647 ♂ 5.0 mm Marion Island.

Distribution
Patagonia, Falkland Islands, Macquarie Island, Chile, Magellan Straits, Fuegan Archipelago.

Remarks
The colour pattern of the present specimen agrees well with that given by Richardson (1909) for *J. patagoniensis* (= *J. curvicornis*). Slight differences in the mouthparts are apparent between the present specimen and the description given by Menzies & Schultz (1967). The Marion Island specimen has nine serrated spines on the mandible (13 in the Antarctic specimens) and five fringed setae on the middle segment of the mandibular palp (as opposed to eight). For the rest, the specimen agrees well with the figures in the abovementioned descriptions.

*Jaeropsis paulensis* Vanhöffen

Figs 5–6

*Jaeropsis paulensis* Vanhöffen, 1914: 531, fig. 59a–1. Barnard, 1965: 201, fig. 2b.

Diagnosis
Cephalon with frontal plate rounded, medially entire, lateral margins entire. Lateral margins of pleotelson entire, fringed with alternating long and short
Fig. 5. *Jaeropsis paulensis* Vanhöffen

Fig. 6. *Jaeropsis paulensis* Vanhöffen

setae. Uropodal basis with broadly rounded lobe medially, unarmed, medio-distal margin serrulate.

**Material**

SAM-A12285, Gough Island, 2 ♂ 1 ♀.

**Remarks**

Barnard (1965) remarks that Vanhöffen figures the maxillipetal palp displaced, and with the second segment unlobed. Figure 5G above shows that in fact this segment is lobed on the inner margin.

**Jaeropsis beuroisi** sp. n.

**Diagnosis**

Cephalon with frontal plate obtusely angled, lateral margins with four or five spinules, more noticeable in smaller specimens, often lacking in adults. Lateral margins of pleotelson in male with one or two small serrations, in female with five or six serrations. Uropodal basis longer than wide, with medial lobe extending furthest distally, tipped with tiny hook; uropods extending beyond pleotelsonic apex.

**Material**

*Holotype* ♂ 6.0 mm St Paul st.90.

*Allotype* ♀ 4.2 mm St Paul st.20.


*Paratypes* 3 ovig. ♀♀, 5 ♀♂, 5 ♀♂. Amsterdam Island st.28.

Jaeropsis beuroisi sp. n.

Figs 7–8

**Material**

St Paul Island

Station No.

3. 2 ♀♀, 1 ♂

7b. 10 ovig. ♀♀, 13 ♀♀, 13 ♂♂

18. 4 ovig. ♀♀, 3 ♀♀, 5 ♂♂

20. 1 ovig. ♀, 1 ♂, 1 ♂

22c. 9 ovig. ♀♀, 4 ♀♀, 12 ♂♂

77a. 1 ovig. ♀, 1 ♂, 4 ♂♂

90. 20 ♀♀, 18 ♂♂

Amsterdam Island

Station No.

39. 1 ovig. ♀, 1 ♀

41a. 1 ♀, 1 ♂

41b. 1 ♂

44. 1 ♀

64a. 1 ovig. ♀, 1 ♂

74. 4 ♂♂

94. 2 ♂♂
Fig. 7. *Jaeropsis beuroisi* sp. n.
Fig. 8. *Jaeropsis beuroisi* sp. n.
St Paul Island
Station No.
B7. 1 ♀
B19. 1 ♀, 1 ♂
D6. 1 ovig. ♀, 2 ♂♀, 5 ♂♂
29/12/1970. 1 juv.
29/1/1971. 1 ♀

Amsterdam Island
Station No.
119. 2 ovig. ♂♂, 8 ♂♀, 11 ♀♀
142b. 2 ovig. ♂♀, 3 ♂♂, 2 ♀♀
147. 1 ♀, 1 ♂
173. 4 ovig. ♂♀, 6 ♂♀, 6 ♂♂
D12. 1 ovig. ♀, 1 ♀, 2 ♂♂

Remarks

Jaeropsis beuroisi resembles J. intermedius (Nicolet) recorded from Argentina to southern Chile, the Falkland Islands, and Antarctica, in the structure of the uropods, antennae (especially the fringed antennae), but differs in the degree of spination of the cephalic and pleotelsonic margins. The frontal plate in J. intermedius is more acute than in the present species. Several differences in the setation and spination of the mouthparts are also apparent.

There is some resemblance to J. marionis Beddard (1886a, 1886b), but the figures of this species are probably somewhat misleading. As the species was described from a single male, the specific definition needs to be supplemented.

The species is named for Dr J. Beurois of Marseilles, who collected most of the material.

Jaeropsis stebbingi sp. n.

Figs 9–10


Diagnosis

Cephalon with frontal plate rounded, medially entire, lateral margins entire. Lateral margins of pleotelson usually with four very fine serrations on each side, often difficult to detect. Uropodal basis with broadly rounded medial lobe tipped with short hook, hardly interrupting pleotelsonic marginal outline; medio-distal margin serrulate. Cephalon bearing broad curved dark pigment band.

Material

Holotype SAM–A13649, ♂ 5 mm. Mouille Point, Table Bay.

Allotype SAM–A13648, ovig. ♀ 3.6 mm. Lüderitz, South West Africa.

SAM–A12738 2 ovig. ♂♂, 2 ♂♀, 1 ♂ Lüderitz, intertidal.
SAM–A12405 1 ♂ Lüderitz.
SAM–A12406 1 ♂ Lüderitz.
SAM–A12588 a ♀ Lüderitz.
SAM–A10381 1 ovig. ♀, 1 ♂ Lambert’s Bay.
SAM–A2617 5 ovig. ♂♂, 7 ♂♀, 6 ♂♂ Mouille Point, Table Bay.
SAM–A2687 1 ovig. ♀ St James, False Bay.
Fig. 9. *Jaeropsis stebbingi* sp. n.
Fig. 10. Jaeropsis stebbingi sp. n.
Remarks

As noted by Barnard (1965) and Menzies & Schultz (1967), the *Jaeropsis curvicornis* described by Stebbing (1905) from Ceylon and later recorded from South Africa was probably not the same as *J. curvicornis* described by Nicolet (1849) from Chile. From the excellent figures provided by Menzies & Schultz (1967) of *J. curvicornis* (Nicolet), from the Antarctic, it is immediately apparent that the South African species is not the same as the Antarctic–Subantarctic species. The most obvious differences are to be seen in the uropods (curved and hooked in *J. stebbingi*, straight and elongate in *J. curvicornis*), the rostral plate (evenly convex in *J. stebbingi*, truncate with small median tooth in *J. curvicornis*) and in the lateral margins of the pleotelson (serrate in *J. stebbingi*, with a single strong incision in *J. curvicornis*).

REFERENCES


