

CANCERILLA TUBULATA DALYELL FROM SOUTH WEST AFRICA
(COPEPODA, CYCLOPOIDA)

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During a recent shore survey of the Lüderitzbucht area, South West Africa, a specimen of the brittle star *Amphipholis squamata* (Della Chiaje) was collected, bearing a parasitic copepod. The latter, an ovigerous female, was situated on the oral surface at the base of an arm, and had a total length of 0.92 mm and a greatest width of 0.92 mm. On examination, the copepod was found to be *Cancerilla tubulata* Dalyell.

Cancerilla durbanensis Stephensen has been recorded from Durban, on the east coast of South Africa. This species closely resembles *C. neozelanica* Stephensen recorded from New Zealand. The present specimen differs markedly from *C. durbanensis* and *C. neozelanica* in the shape of the thoracic shield.

C. tubulata has been recorded from the Mediterranean, Norway, the Irish Sea, the North Sea, and the Atlantic coast of France, mainly from *Amphipholis squamata* (cf. Changeux, 1957; Carton, 1968). This record from South West Africa would appear to be the first from the southern hemisphere, but is not surprising, when the cosmopolitan distribution of the host species is considered.

REFERENCES

- CARTON, Y., 1968. Développement de *Cancerilla tubulata* Dalyell parasite de l'ophiure *Amphipholis squamata* Della Chiaje. *Crustaceana*, suppl. 1: 11-28.
CHANGEUX, J.-P., 1957. Description de deux stades larvaires d'un Copépode Cancerillidae, parasite sur *Ophiopsila aranea* Forbes. *Vie Milieu*, 8: 297-311.