SCIENTIFIC COMMUNICATION

Occurrence of *Kurzia polyspina* Hudec (Crustacea, Anomopoda, Chydoridae) in Brazil

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ABSTRACT. The cladoceran *Kurzia polyspina* Hudec, 2000 (Anomopoda, Chydoridae) was found associated with *Eichhornia* Kunth, 1843 (Pontederiaceae) roots in Paranoá Lake, Brasília. It represents the first record of this species in Brazil and in the Southern Hemisphere. Comments on *Kurzia* Dybowski & Grochowski, 1894 South American records are included.
KEY WORDS. Anomopoda, Chydoridae, *Kurzia polyspina*, first record

For a long time, *Kurzia latissima* (Kurz, 1874) (Anomopoda, Chydoridae) was considered a cosmopolitan species (SMIRNOV 1974). Lately, however, HUDEC (2000) has shown that New World's populations formerly considered *K. latissima* belonged to a different species. For the Neotropics, he proposed a new species *Kurzia polyspina* Hudec, 2000, which has been found in Mexico, Cuba and Surinam.

Reporting the occurrence of *K. polyspina* in Paranoá Lake (Brasília, central Brazil), the present study represents the first record of this species in the Southern Hemisphere.

The sample was taken from the littoral zone of Paranoá lake, in April 3th 1987. Some *Eichhornia* Kunth, 1843 (Pontederiaceae) individuals were shaken into a recipient filled with reservoir water, which was then passed through a plankton net. The sample was preserved in formalin 4%.

The only three *K. polyspina* individuals found in the sample are females. They are mounted in glycerin jelly and one of them deposited at Museu Nacional, Rio de Janeiro (MNRJ 15446).

The individuals match the diagnostic characters presented by HUDEC (2000): Subretangular body (Fig. 1), antennules almost reaching rostral tip (Figs 1 and 2), antenna with basal segment seta delicate and short (Fig. 7), three main head pores (Fig. 3), labrum subtriangular in shape with anterior margin slightly curved and undulate (Fig. 4), postero-ventral and posterior carapace margin with identical setulae (Fig. 5), postabdomen (Fig. 6) with distal corner angular and with one cluster of spicula-like marginal denticles, 8-9 clusters of spicule-like denticles on postanal margin, terminal claw with a non-serrated basal denticle twice as long as basal width of terminal claw, the two longer setae (Fig. 8) on inner distal lobe (IDL) of the first trunk limb different serrated (two different spicules and setules).

According to SMIRNOV (1974), two *Kurzia* Dybowski & Grochowski, 1894 species were recorded in South America: *Kurzia latissima* (Kurz, 1874) and *Kurzia longirostris* Daday, 1898.

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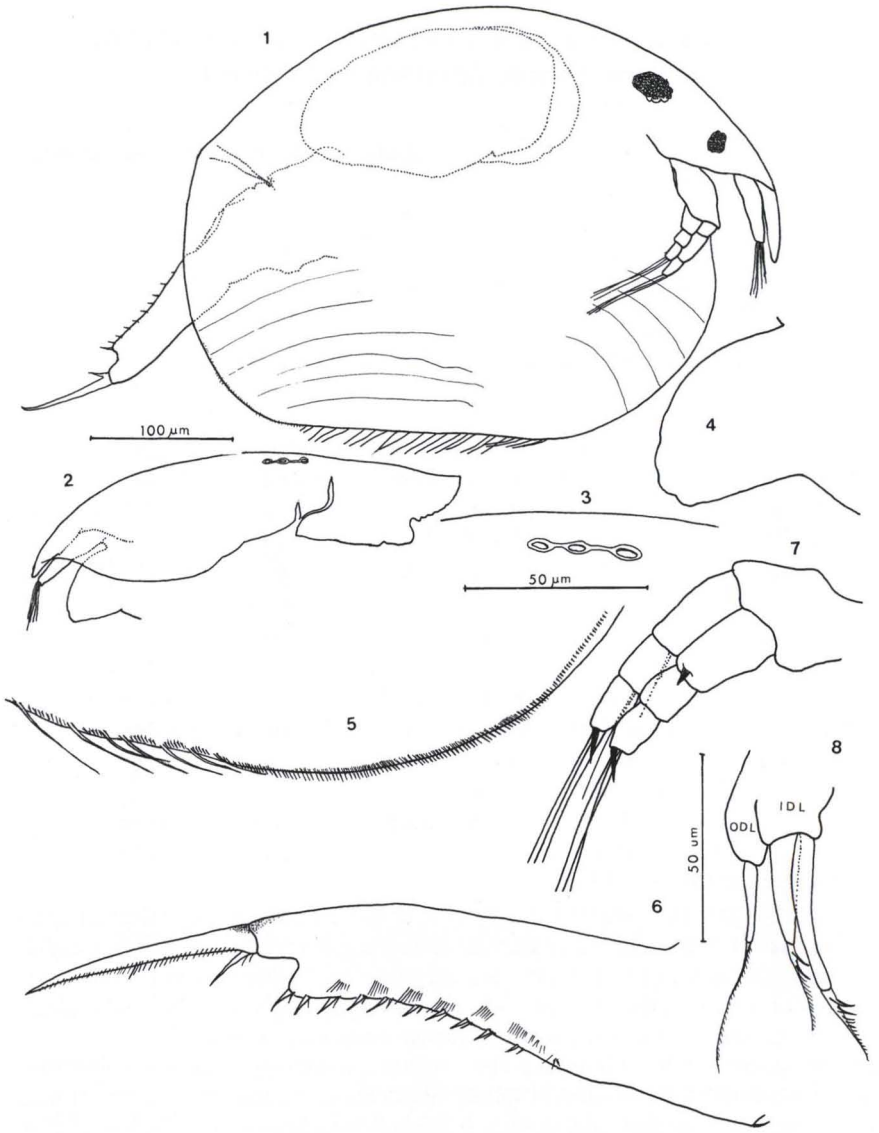

Fig. 1-8. *Kurzia polyspina*. (1) Adult female, lateral view; (2) head shield, lateral view, distorted to show the head pores; (3) head pores; (4) labrum; (5) postero-ventral and posterior margin of carapace.; (6) postabdomen; (7) antenna; (8) setae on outer (ODL) and inner distal lobe (IDL) of the trunk limb I.

Kurzia latissima and *K. polyspina* are very similar and to differentiate one from the other, the most important characters are the lateral serration of the two longest IDL setae (spicules and setules in *K. polyspina*; uniform setules in *K.*

latissima) and the form of postabdominal distal corner and number of denticles at it (angular with 1 denticle in *K. polyspina*; blunt with 2-3 denticles in *K. latissima*).

The distributional pattern presented by HUDEC (2000) for *K. latissima* suggests the necessity of reassessment of the previous Brazilian (SARS 1901; MONTÚ & GLOEDEN 1986) and other South American records (DADAY 1905; STINGELIN 1913; PAGGI 1995), which probably belong to *K. polyspina*. Indeed, HUDEC (2000) suggested that *Kurzia* cf. *latissima* recorded in Venezuela (REY & VASQUEZ 1986) belongs to *K. polyspina*. The same could be suggested for Argentine populations attributed to *K. latissima*, whose postabdomen drawn by PAGGI (1995) shows *K. polyspina* characteristics.

Kurzia longirostris is easily differentiated from the two previously cited species by its long rostrum, triangular labrum, short basal spine, and posterior head pore transversely elongated (HUDEC 2000). It was described from Ceylon (Sri Lanka) and reported in South America only twice (SARS 1901; DADAY 1905). Despite being considered a pantropical species, it is possible that *K. longirostris* represents a species complex, as shyly suggested by HUDEC (2000) putting a question mark after the indication of its distribution. It is in accordance with several authors (e.g. DUMONT 1997) who advocated the necessity for revision of the so-called cosmopolitan species. Consequently, the South American records should be considered under suspicion.

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