



Recent Ostracoda (Arthropoda, Crustacea) from São Pedro-São Paulo Archipelago, Brazil: a preliminary approach

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Abstract

The present study analyses ostracods from sedimentary samples collected in the São Pedro-São Paulo Archipelago, a small set of remote rock islands located Northeastern to the Brazilian coast. Thirteen species were identified, and their zoogeographical distribution was studied. An emendation for *Keijcyoidea praecipua* (Bold, 1963) is proposed in this paper. The distribution of the species which occur in the archipelago varies significantly: *Triebelina sertata* Triebel, 1948, is a cosmopolitan species; *Loxocncha (Loxocorniculum) tricornata* is assumed to occur from the Caribbean Sea to the tropical portion of the Brazilian coast and Western Africa. *Keijcyoidea praecipua* is recorded through the Pacific and Atlantic coasts of Central America and Northeastern Brazil. *Xestoleberis toni*? Wouters, 2003 and *Triebelina cf. intermedia* Witte, 1993 are known from the African coast. *Neonesidea tenera*? (Brady, 1886) *emend.* Maddocks, 1969 is found along the Indian and Pacific oceans. The species *Pontocypris (Ekpontocypris) pirifera*? (Müller, 1894) is also present in the western European coast and the Mediterranean Sea. Six species are probably new and have not been observed elsewhere: *Aurila* sp. 1, *Paradoxostoma* sp. 1, *Paradoxostoma* sp. 2, *Xestoleberis* sp. 1, *Xestoleberis* sp. 2 and *Xestoleberis*? sp. 3.

Key words: taxonomy, zoogeography, oceanic islands, South Atlantic Ocean

Introduction

Oceanographic expeditions to the Brazilian continental margin during the last four decades have yielded many sea-floor samples, providing the opportunity to study different microfaunal groups, including benthic ostracods. Numerous scientific papers focused on ostracod fauna and their distribution along the Brazilian coast. These papers contributed to the knowledge of ostracod taxonomy and zoogeography and to our understanding of species distribution patterns and assemblages (Pinto *et al.* 1978; Chukewiski & Purper 1985a,b; Ornellas & Coimbra 1985; Coimbra & Ornellas 1986,1987,1989; Purper & Ornellas 1987a,b, 1989; Ramos 1994,1996; Coimbra *et al.* 1995,1999,2004; Fauth & Coimbra 1998; Do Carmo & Sanguinetti 1999; Ramos *et al.* 1999, 2004, 2009, 2010; Bergue & Coimbra 2002; Coimbra & Carreño 2002; Machado & Drozinski 2002; Coimbra & Bergue 2003; Aiello *et al.* 2004; Sartori & Coimbra 2010).

However, investigations in Brazil have not been conducted on oceanic islands, mainly due to the difficult acquisition of insular material. A single work about ostracods on Brazilian islands, by Coimbra *et al.* (2011), recorded 21 species on the island of Trindade and 25 on the Rocas Atoll. The present work focuses on ostracod fauna from the São Pedro-São Paulo Archipelago, Northeastern Brazil, which has not been studied previously. The present study aims to extend the scientific knowledge about animal diversity from these islets by discussing the taxonomy and zoogeography of some ostracod species found on the archipelago. This research also provides insight into the zoogeography of ostracods on oceanic islands, especially those in the Southern Atlantic Ocean.