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Article



Four species of the genus *Seba* from Japan, with descriptions of two new species (Crustacea: Amphipoda: Sebidae)

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Abstract

Four species of the genus *Seba* Bate, 1862 were collected from coastal areas in western Japan. Among them, two species were revealed to be new to science. Species collected are *Seba chiltoni* Moore, 1987, *S. ekepuu* J.L. Barnard, 1970, *S. latiquinta* **sp. nov.**, and *S. latisexta* **sp. nov.** All of them are described in both sexes, and keys to species of *Seba* in Japan are provided. Each species is distinguishable from one another by the shapes of gnathopods, pereopods 5–7 and uropods 1 and 2. The genus *Caribseba* Shaw, 1989 is synonymized with *Seba*.

Key words: Amphipoda, Sebidae, Seba, Japan, new species

Introduction

The genus *Seba* was established by Bate (1862). J.L. Barnard & Karaman (1991) enumerated 15 species in this genus until 1987. Afterwards four species of *Seba* were described, including *S. profundus* [sic] Shaw, 1989, *S. robusta* Ortiz & Lamaitre, 1997, *S. bathybia* Larsen, 2007, and *S. alvarezi* Winfield *et al.*, 2009. Although Shaw (1989) removed *S. tropica* McKinney, 1980 to a new genus *Caribseba* Shaw, 1989; Winfield *et al.* (2009) denied validity of *Caribseba*. In Japan, however, there has been no record of the genus (Ishimaru 1990). During my survey of amphipod fauna in Japan, four species of the genus *Seba* including two undescribed species were obtained. In the present paper, I describe the morphological characters of these species in both sexes and provide keys to the species in Japan.

Materials and methods

The samples treated here were collected from the coastal areas of Aichi, Mie, Wakayama and Oita Prefectures, western Japan. Thirty individuals were dissected and their appendages were examined and illustrated under a phase-contrast microscope. Body length was measured from the apex of the rostrum along the dorsal margin to the distal end of the urosomite 3. Voucher specimens, including the type series of new species, are deposited in the Osaka Museum of Natural History (OMNH).

Family Sebidae Walker, 1907

Genus Seba Bate, 1862

Seba Bate, 1862: 159 (type species: Seba innominata Bate, 1862 by monotypy).—Stebbing, 1888: 782.—Della Valle, 1893: 773.—Stebbing, 1906: 162. –Walker, 1907: 37.—Schellenberg, 1931: 83.—J.L. Barnard, 1969: 436.—Karaman, 1971: 73.—Holman & Watling, 1983: 239.—Ledoyer, 1986: 944.—Shaw, 1989: 1885.—J.L.