

***Osornodella gabrielae*, n. gen. and n. sp., a new falklandellid (Amphipoda: Gammaridea) from freshwaters of the Chilean Coastal Range**

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Abstract

The first species of falklandellid amphipod outside the Falkland Islands: *Osornodella gabrielae* n. gen., n. sp. is described from freshwaters of subterranean origin in the Coastal Range of Osorno province, Chile. The new taxon is characterized principally by the absence of secondary sexual characters in pereopods 3–4, uropod 3 aequiramous and telson slightly cleft. The new species is described and illustrated and its morphological relationships with other known species of this group are discussed.

Key words: Falklandellidae, *Osornodella* n. gen., *O. gabrielae* n. sp., freshwater amphipod, Chile

Resumen

Se describe la primera especie de anfípodo falklandellido fuera de las Islas Malvinas: *Osornodella gabrielae* n. gen., n. sp., habitante de aguas de origen subterráneo de la cordillera de la costa de la provincia de Osorno, Chile. El nuevo taxón se caracteriza principalmente por la ausencia de caracteres sexuales secundarios en los pereópodos 3–4, urópodo 3 equiramoso y telson ligeramente partido. Se describe e ilustra completamente la especie y se discute sus relaciones morfológicas con las especies previamente conocidas en este grupo.

Palabras clave: Falklandellidae, *Osornodella* n. gen., *O. gabrielae* n. sp., anfípodo dulceacuícola, Chile

Introduction

Until recently, the freshwater amphipod diversity in Chile was restricted only to seven epigean species of the genus *Hyalella* Smith, 1874 (González 2003; Jara *et al.* 2006) and two groundwater species of the genera *Pseudingolfiella* Noodt, 1965 and *Ingolfiella* Hansen, 1903 (Noodt 1965). However, recent studies are showing the presence of families previously not reported in the country, such as Paraleptamphopidae (*Rudolphia macrodactylus* Grosso & Peralta, 2009), Phreatogammaridae (*Ruffia patagonica* Brehier *et al.*, 2010) and Bogidiellidae (Pérez-Schultheiss in prep.). In this work, I report the presence of an additional species of amphipod, belonging to the family Falklandellidae Lowry & Myers, 2012, a group formerly known as endemic to the Falkland Islands. *Osornodella gabrielae* n. gen., n. sp., an inhabitant of springs of the Coastal Cordillera in the province of Osorno, is described, illustrated and its morphologic relationships to other species of falklandellids are discussed.

Material and methods

The specimens were collected with hand sieves and preserved in 75% alcohol. Holotype, allotype and some paratypes were deposited in the Museo de Zoología de la Universidad de Concepción (MZUC), Concepción, Chile