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Further records of species of *Gennadas* (Crustacea, Decapoda, Dendrobranchiata, Benthesicymidae) in the Mexican Pacific

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Abstract

Additional material of species of *Gennadas* was collected off western Mexico during the TALUD survey aboard the R/V "El Puma". *Gennadas sordidus* was by far the most common species collected and only a few specimens of the other three species, *G. incertus*, *G. propinquus* and *G. scutatus*, were obtained. New and previous records indicate that *Gennadas sordidus* is widely distributed along the west coast of Mexico, although there is only one record for it south of the Gulf of California. In this study it was collected in as many as 35 localities, both in the Gulf of California and off the west coast of Southern Baja California. Numbers of specimens also confirmed that it is the dominant species of *Gennadas* in the area. *Gennadas incertus* was found in six samples, all from off the west coast of northern Baja California. The other two species occurred each in two samples only, with sampling localities widely spread along the Baja California Peninsula. Compared with the rest of the eastern Pacific, the diversity of *Gennadas* in Mexican waters is intermediate (6 species) vs. 9 in Chile and 4 in the NW Pacific.

Key words: *Gennadas*, eastern Pacific, distribution Mexico

Introduction

Species of *Gennadas* occur in the pelagic realm worldwide. Until 1996, there were only few records of this genus in the Mexican Pacific. Previous to this year, *Gennadas scutatus* Bouvier, 1906 had been reported from of Clarion Island (Burkenroad 1938) and *G. sordidus* from the Gulf of California, off the Baja California west coast, and off the Revillagigedo Islands (Burkenroad 1938). Five other species, *G. bouvieri* Kemp, 1909, *G. capensis* Calman 1925, *G. incertus* (Balss, 1927), *G. propinquus* Rathbun, 1906, and *G. tinayrei* Bouvier, 1906 were collected far away from the Baja California Peninsula west coast, at "Seamount 350", and reported by Hanamura (1983). In 1996, Hendrickx & Estrada-Navarrete (1996) published the results of the analysis of a large series of pelagic shrimp samples and included four more species to the Mexican Pacific list: *G. capensis*, *G. incertus*, *G. propinquus*, and *G. tinayrei*. Most of the material reported by Hendrickx & Estrada-Navarrete (1996) was collected in the epipelagic zone (maximum depth of ca 200 m), with occasional samples taken between surface and ca 300 m. The material examined by these authors had been collected between 1977 and 1985. Another contribution on pelagic shrimps of western Mexico and that includes species of *Gennadas* was presented by Hendrickx (2013) and reported on new material of *G. incertus* and *G. sordidus*. Another contribution on pelagic shrimps of the northern Gulf of California was presented by Flores-Anduaga & Hendrickx (2014) but did not included species of *Gennadas*.

During a recent survey of the deep-water benthic fauna with a benthic sledge, specimens of *Gennadas* were captured during the ascent of the gear. This material is reported herein and represent important additions to the pelagic shrimps of western Mexico. Abbreviations used are: St., station; CL, carapace length; BS, benthic sledge.

Material and methods

Samples of pelagic shrimps were obtained on the continental slope along the Pacific coast of Mexico during the TALUD project using a benthic sledge (2.5 m width, 0.9 m high) equipped with a modified shrimp net (ca 5.5 cm