

ON A COLLECTION OF TWO SPECIES OF PELAGIC PENAEIDS
(CRUSTACEA : DECAPODA) FROM THE OCEANIC WATERS OF
THE SOUTHWEST ARABIAN SEA

ABSTRACT

Two species of oceanic penaeids viz. *Funchalia villosa* and *F. balboae* are recorded for the first time from Indian waters and reported in this note.

THE REPORT is based on the collection made during the research cruise of FORV *Sagar Sampada* in August 1985 from the oceanic waters of the (Southwest Arabian Sea) where the depth is 2000-3000 m. Two species of genus *Funchalia* (Family: Penaeidae) collected from depths of 70-75 m are included here. This genus *Funchalia* is recorded for the first time from Indian waters.

Genus : *Funchalia* Johnson, 1867

Funchalia Johnson, 1867; Bouvier, 1908; Lenz and Strunck, 1914; Calman, 1925; Burkenroad, 1934.

Aristeus part Bate, 1888.

Penaeus part Faxon, 1895; Lenz and Strunck, 1914 part; Schmitt, 1935 part.

Hemipenaeopsis Bouvier, 1905.

Grimaldiella Bouvier, 1905.

The members of the genus were included in a number of genera by previous workers. Burkenroad (1936) recognised two subgenera. He placed the species having ventral teeth on the rostrum in the subgenus *Pelagopenaeus* and those species without ventral teeth on the rostrum in the subgenus *Funchalia*. However Dall (1957) and Burukoviskii (1974) did not recognise the subgenera and dealt all the species under *Funchalia*. All the five species known are pelagic in habit and are poorly known.

Funchalia villosa (Bouvier, 1905)

Hemipenaeopsis villosus part Bouvier, 1905.

Grimaldiella richardi part Bouvier, 1905.

Funchalia woodwardi part Bouvier, 1907 and 1908; Lenz and Strunck, 1914.

Funchalia vanhoeffeni Lenz and Strunck, 1914.

Material: Eleven females with a length range of 64-72 mm total length (15-16 mm carapace length) and seven males with a length range of 57-68 mm total length (14-16 mm carapace length) from Station No. 175 of FORV *Sagar Sampada* cruise SS/6/85 on 6-8-1985 at 8°N Latitude and 73°32.4' E where the depth was 2390-2761 m. These prawns were caught at a depth of 75 m from surface by pelagic trawling.

Distribution : *F. villosa* has been recorded from the Mediterranean (Stephensen, 1923), the temperate North Atlantic (Johnson, 1878; Bouvier, 1906 and 1922; Lenz and Strunck, 1914; Sund, 1920; Stephensen, 1923), the Caribbean Sea (Burkenroad, 1936) and the temperate South Atlantic (Lenz and Strunck, 1914; Calman, 1925) as well as from the Indian Ocean (Balss, 1925; Dall, 1957). The present record extends the range of distribution of the species to the Arabian Sea.

Remarks : All the specimens observed in the present collection are mature. All the specimens have one epigastric tooth and five rostral teeth on the dorsal side of the rostrum. In males the spermatophores are very conspicuous. In live specimens the colour was milky white with tips of pleopods and uropods bordered red. This colour pattern is retained even after preservation. Burkenroad (1936) made a clear-cut distinction between *F. villosa* and *F. woodwardi*. The present material closely agrees with the description of *F. villosa*. Rostral teeth varied from 1+5 to 1+6 in Burkenroad's specimens whereas in the present material the rostral teeth were 1+5 in all the specimens.

Funchalia balboae (Faxon, 1983)	98	24	$\frac{1 + 13}{3}$	Male mature
<i>Penaeus balboae</i> Faxon, 1893 and 1895; Schmitt, 1935.				
<i>Penaeus meridionalis</i> Lenz and Strunck, 1914.	104	25	$\frac{1 + 11}{3}$	Male mature
<i>Funchalia (Pelagopenaeus) balboae</i> Burkenroad, 1934 and 1936.				
<i>Funchalia (Pelagopenaeus) meridionalis</i> Burkenroad, 1934.	110	26	$\frac{1 + 11}{4}$	Male mature
<i>Funchalia balboae</i> Dall, 1957; Burukovskii, 1974.				

Material: One female and 5 males from Station No. 179 (9°03'N and 74°03'E) where the depth was 2746 m. They were collected from the water column 75 m from the surface. Five females and 9 males from Station No. 185 (11°01'N and 71°05'E) where the depth was 2510 m. These specimens were collected at 70-75 m depth from surface. The details of nine specimens studied are given below:

Total length in mm	Carapace length in mm	Rostral formula	Sex and maturity
94	24	$\frac{1 + 13}{3}$	Female mature
97	25	$\frac{1 + 14}{4}$	Female mature
97	25	$\frac{1 + 12}{4}$	Female mature
101	26	$\frac{1 + 12}{3}$	Female mature
127	28	$\frac{1 + 13}{4}$	Female mature
94	25	$\frac{1 + 8}{0}$	Male mature, rostrum repair in progress

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