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NOTES AND NEWS

NEW RECORD OF *PHROSINA SEMILUNATA* RISSO, 1822 (CRUSTACEA: AMPHIPODA: PHROSINIDAE) FROM SINDH TERRITORIAL WATERS (NORTHERN ARABIAN SEA)

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Hyperiid amphipods are pelagic, mostly oceanic amphipods; few species are found in coastal waters. *Phrosina semilunata* Risso, 1822 belongs to the family Phrosinidae. The species *P. semilunata* has been previously reported from the Arabian Sea by Barnard (1937) and also from its southern part by Pillai (1966). The description of the monotypic genus *Phrosina* given by Bowman and Gruner (1973) is based only on female. Since in our collection specimens of both sexes are present, the male description would be the first one for this phrosinid population, it being important from the point of view of sexual dimorphism in head appendages found in the species. The specimens are housed in the MRC (cat No.AMPH-10).

Phrosina semilunata Risso, 1822 (Figs. 1 & 2)

Material examined. 2 specimens (1 male & 1 female) ♂ TL: 3.27mm, ♀ TL: 3.25 mm. NASEER Cruise 3 Sta. 8C (22° 55' N lat. & 65° 59' E long.)

Diagnosis: Head large, globular eyes occupying most of the head. Head produced into 2 lateral rostral points. Pereonites 1 and 2 fused. In male antenna 1 and 2 both long, multisegmented. In female antenna 1 very short and antenna 2 absent. Mandible with palp in male whereas in female without palp. Maxilliped with slender outer lobe and inner lobes fused. Pereopod 1 smaller than 2, the lower border of carpus with few setae in both pereopods. Pereopods 3 and 4 subchelate with pointed carpal process; distal margin of carpus not dentate in pereopods 3 and 4; distal margin of propodus simple, convex in pereopod 3 and sinuous in pereopod 4. Pereopod 5 and 6 subchelate; carpus short and broad with dentate distal margin, propodus much longer than carpus. Pereopod 7 rudimentary with a broad base and reduced 2nd segment. Uropods 1-3 present, margin smooth. Telson semicircular.

Remarks: The present specimens differ from the available descriptions of Pillai (1966) and Bowman and Gruner (1973) in having unarmed distal margin of propodus of pereopods 3 and 4 and telson differing from that illustrated by Bowman and Gruner (1973) in being shorter and globular. The two differences warrant further investigation.

Distribution: Atlantic, Mediterranean, Antarctic, Pacific, Indian Ocean. It is recorded for the first time from the northeastern part of the Arabian Sea.

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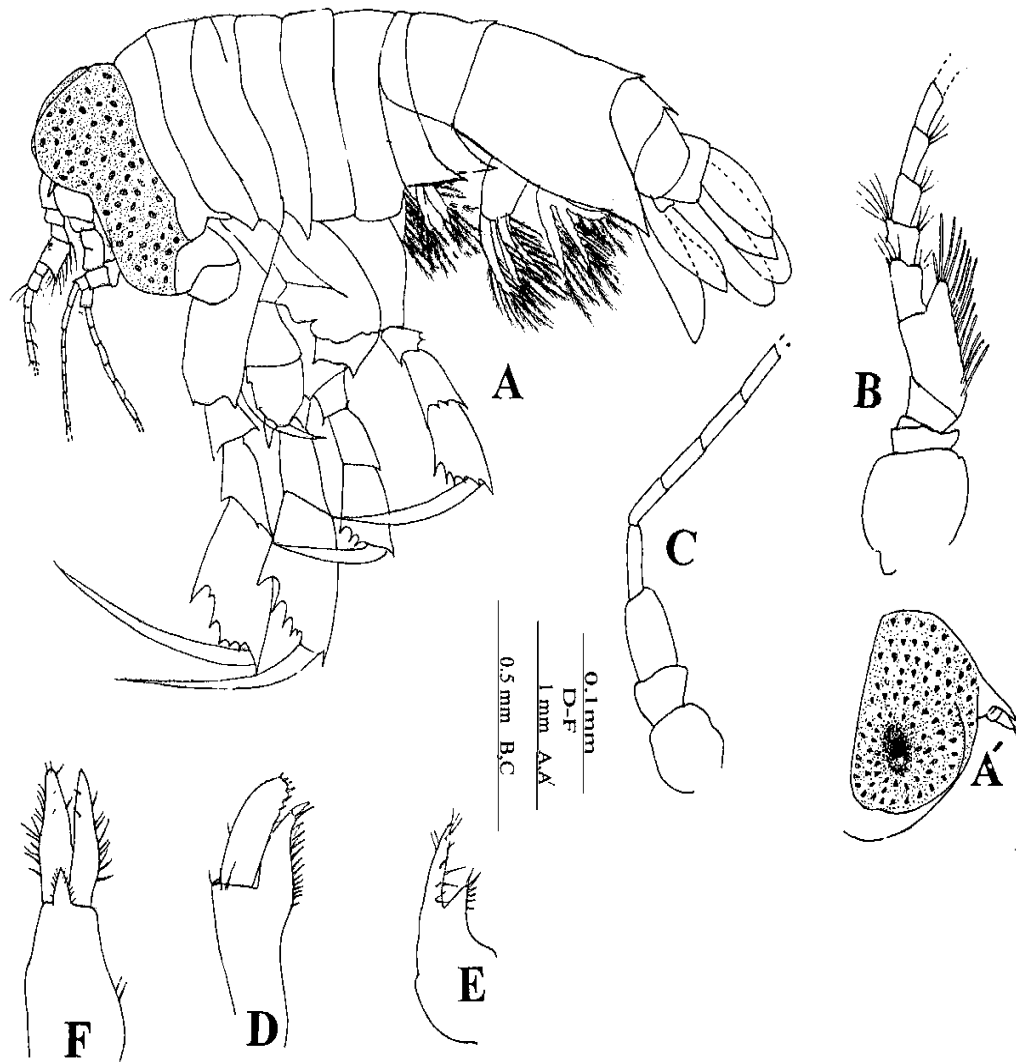


Fig.1. *Phrosina semilunata* Risso, 1822. TL: 3.27 mm. A, entire; A' head of female; B, antenna 1; C, antenna 2; D, maxilla 1; E, maxilla 2; F, maxilliped. All figures from male (TL: 3.25 mm except A'). Figs A, A' at scale b= 1mm., B, C at scale c=0.5mm. and D-F at scale a=0.1mm.

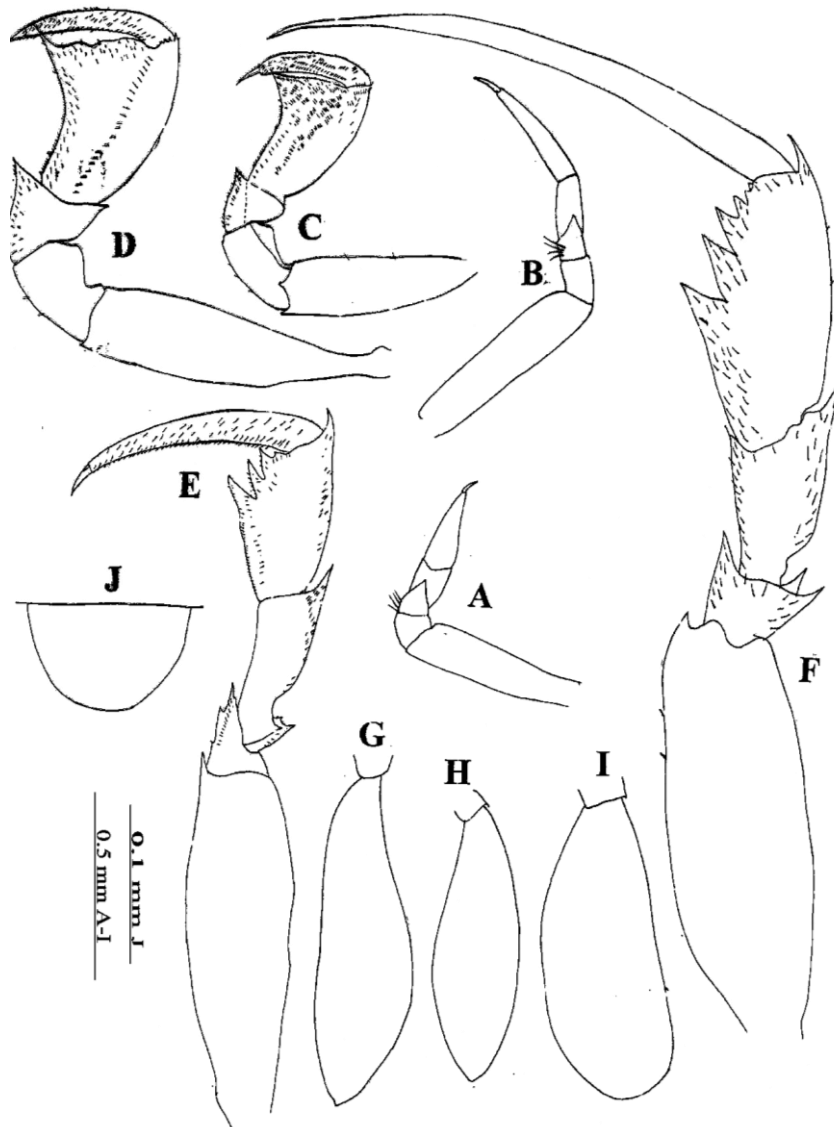


Fig. 2. *Phrosina semilunata* Risso, 1822. Male TL: 3.27 mm. A-F pereopods 1-6; G-I, uropods 1-3; J, telson. A-I at scale b=0.5 mm. and J at scale a=0.1 mm.

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