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***Paragnathia formica* (Hesse, 1864) (Isopoda: Gnathiidae) a new record to the Canary archipelago**

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Paragnathia formica (Hesse, 1864), as it occurs with other gnathiid isopods, is a temporary ectoparasite of fishes during its larval phase. However, its adult phase is characterized to not feed on them, with a free-living behavior (Charmantier & Euzet, 1987 [*Crustaceana*, 53(2): 134-147]. Larval and adult stages show different morphologies, especially accentuated in their mouthparts (Monod, 1926 [*Mém. Soc. Sci. Nat. Maroc*. 13: 1-667]. This species has been extensively recorded in the Atlantic Ocean, from the North Sea to Morocco (Junoy & Castelló, 2003 [*Bol. Inst. Esp. Ocean*. 19(1-4): 293-325], and recently in the Black Sea (Kopuz *et al.* 2011 [*Crustaceana* 84(14): 1719-1725]. *P. formica* is first recorded to the Canary archipelago, being the current southern range limit of the species that previously was established on the Moroccan Atlantic coast.

The studied individual of *Paragnathia formica* was recorded off Fuerteventura (NE Amanay) at 719 m depth (coordinates 28°16.2418'N/14°40.0921'W), in a submarine canyon with patchy (sand and reef) seabed. This material was collected from a mega box corer on June 2011. The specimen is a 3.8 mm-length adult male with developed-forceps like mandibles, small eyes and five peraeon somites that end up in a narrow pleotelson. Peraeopods fragmented and not easily discernible. Ventral pleopods partially fragmented and difficult to discern (Fig. 1). This species can be easily distinguishable from other isopods for the five pairs of peraeopods, the two peraeon somites are fused forming the cephalon and the second peraeon somite is modified into flattened gnathopods with 5 articles.

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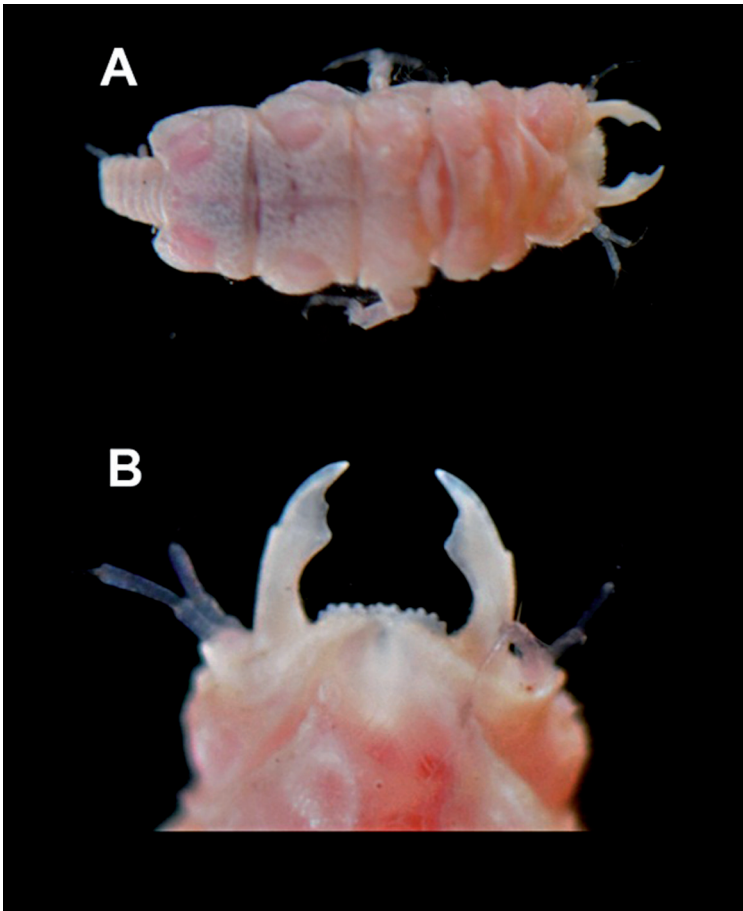


Figura 1. *Paragnathia formica*. A. Dorsal view. B. Head. Scale. A. 1 mm B. 0.5 mm.

RODRIGO RIERA^{1*} & PABLO MARTÍN-SOSA²

¹ *Centro de Investigaciones Medioambientales del Atlántico
Avda. Los Majuelos, 115. 38107 Santa Cruz de Tenerife, Tenerife, islas Canarias*

**corresponding author: rodrigo@cimacanarias.com*

² *Centro Oceanográfico de Canarias, Instituto Español de Oceanografía
Dársena pesquera, parcela 8. 38180 Santa Cruz de Tenerife, Tenerife, islas Canarias*