

## Data on the distribution of freshwater harpacticoids (Crustacea, Copepoda) in Tierra del Fuego (Argentina)

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**Abstract.** All available data on the distribution of freshwater harpacticoids (Copepoda) in Grande de Tierra del Fuego Island are summarized. *Attheyella (Delachauxiella) nuda* Löffler, 1961 inhabiting wet mosses in the valley of Martial Glacier near Ushuaia is newly established. The site marks the southernmost distribution of the species in Argentina.

**Key words:** *Attheyella*, Harpacticoida, distribution, South America.

### Introduction

The studies on the freshwater harpacticoid fauna of Argentina are relatively scarce. *Attheyella* subg. *Delachauxiella* Brehm, 1925 have been reported in Argentina with five species: *A. (D.) aculeatus*, (Thiebaut, 1914), *A. (D.) incae* Brehm, 1936, *A. (D.) nuda* Löffler 1961, *A. (D.) sancarlensis* (Rouch & Matsumura) and *A. (D.) trigonura* (Ekman, 1905).

Till the end of 20<sup>th</sup> century the freshwater harpacticoids of the archipelago of Tierra del Fuego were poorly known. Only *Attheyella trigonura* (Ekman, 1905) was signaled for this southernmost part of Argentina. Apostolov studying the fauna of wet mosses of the Martial Glacier valley near Ushuaia described two new species: *Maraenobiotus australis* Apostolov, 2000 and *Antarctobiotus muscicolus* Apostolov, 2001.

The aim of present communication is to provide additional data for harpacticoid fauna of the Grande de Tierra del Fuego Island.

### Material and Methods

2 ♀♀ *Attheyella (Delachauxiella) nuda* gathered from wet mosses in the valley of Martial Glacier near Ushuaia, Grande de Tierra del Fuego Island, Argentina (54° 47' 13.67" S, 68° 23' 38.12" W), altitude 630 m, 11.01.1999.

Samples were collected by many times rinsing bryophytes and then filtering the water through a hand-held net. The material was fixed in 70% ethanol for long-term storage.

### Results and Discussion

The two studied female specimens belongs to *Attheyella (Delachauxiella) nuda* and completely fit with the original species description given by Löffler (1961) on the basis of female individuals found in two forest lakes: Vilarica and Llianquihue in Southern Chile.

During the study of soil fauna in Argentina Rouch (1962) reported the species *Attheyella (Delachauxiella) nuda* in South America (Andean Patagonia) at the following six locations without precise coordinates:

- El Bolson. Sol hummide de Libocedrus;
- Arroyo Pilmaiquen. Réserve du Nahuel Huapi;
- Lago Puelo, Province de Chubut;
- Sable fin avec débris de Nothofagus;
- Las Azucemas. Province de Tucuman, 1500 m d'altitude;
- Lago Futalaufquen.

A. (*Delachauxiella*) *nuda* mainly inhabits wet mosses. According to Rouch (1962) it successfully colonized *Libocedrus* wet soil and fine sand with *Nothofagus* debris. As Rouch (op. cit.) points out, the species is still found in the coastal interstitial waters of forest lakes.

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