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**CYCLOTHONE PARAPALLIDA BADCOCK (STOMIIFORMES,
GONOSTOMATIDAE) FROM OFF MADEIRA: THE FIRST
RECORD FOR THE NORTH-EASTERN ATLANTIC**

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ABSTRACT. A single specimen of *Cyclothone parapallida* Badcock, 1982 taken to the south of Madeira represents the first record of the species in the North-eastern Atlantic.

RESUMO. Um único espécime de *Cyclothone parapallida* Badcock, 1982 colhido ao Sul da Madeira representa o primeiro assinalamento da espécie no Atlântico Nordeste.

During October 1983 the British vessel RRS *Challenger*, as part of the programme of her cruise 14/83, undertook midwater trawling in an area immediately to the south of Madeira. At different times during the cruise two sizes of rectangular midwater trawl were used, one with an effective mouth area of 10 m² (RMT-10) the other with an effective mouth area of 50 m² (RMT-50). These nets were fitted with a spotlight mounted on the top bar of the net mouth and angled so as to shine forward along the path of the net. The hauls made off Madeira were part of a long-term study of the influence of electric lights on the composition of the catch of midwater trawls (Swinney, Clarke & Maddock, 1986; Clarke & Swinney, in prep).

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For each haul the net was lowered to a pre-selected depth and fished as closely as possible to that depth for a period of 2 hours, at a towing speed of 2.0-2.5 k. Replicate hauls were taken at similar times of day with the light on and with the light off. Full details of the design of the RMTs and their operation during cruise 14/83 are given by Clarke & Pascoe (1985).

The area fished is close to the southern extremity of the North-eastern Atlantic, (ie. the CLOFNAM area) as defined by Hureau & Monod (1973). The ichthyofauna of this area is relatively well known and all species recorded from within the area have been reviewed recently (Whitehead et al., 1984; 1986). This paper, the first in a series reporting new records for the CLOFNAM area taken during *Challenger* cruise 14/83, reports the capture of *Cyclothone parapallida* Badcock, 1982.

This species was described from the tropical and sub-tropical Atlantic, although previously published meristic data for specimens identified as other *Cyclothone* species suggested that it might also inhabit other oceans. In the eastern Atlantic Badcock (1982) recorded it as far north as 25°N. and suggested that it might have a similar distribution to *Cyclothone obscura* Brauer. *C. obscura* is known from the extreme south of the CLOFNAM area (Badcock, 1982; 1984), but the present record is the first for *C. parapallida* within the area.

The specimen here reported, 62 mm. SL, was taken between 12.05 hr. and 16.55 hr. on 26 October 1983 in an illuminated RMT-50 at 32°23'N 16°53'W (haul no. C83/65). As the trawl was not equipped with an opening/closing device it is not possible to give the depth of capture with absolute certainty, but a recording pressure gauge, attached to the top bar of the net mouth, indicated that the net had reached a maximum depth of 1360 m. The composition of this and other hauls suggested that the trawl caught relatively little whilst being deployed to and retrieved from the depth at which it was fished.

The fishes collected during *Challenger* cruise 14/83 have been deposited in the Natural History collection of the National Museums of Stotland. The specimen of *C. parapallida* is registered as NMSZ 1987.018.001.

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