

BOCAGIANA

Museu Municipal do Funchal

Madeira

25.III.1985

83

FIRST RECORD OF *PALAEON SERRATUS* (PENNANT, 1777) (CRUSTACEA, DECAPODA, PALAEMONIDAE) IN MADEIRA

By Manuel José Biscoito *

RESUMO. No presente trabalho é assinalada uma nova espécie de camarão para as águas da Madeira, *P. serratus* (Pennant, 1777), colhida num covo na Baía do Funchal.

The Island of Madeira is of volcanic origin and is situated in the NE Atlantic, 32° 40' N, 17° 00' W, at a distance of about 600 km from the coast of Africa and about 900 km from Portugal. Depths between the former and the latter reach 4,000 m. or more.

For the purpose of collecting live marine animals for the Museum's Aquarium the personnel in charge of this has been putting down shrimp pots in the Bay of Funchal or other places along the south coast for well over 20 years. The meshes of the netting used for these pots quite often measure 1 cm² and the bate employed consists of viscera of chickens, commonly used for the capture of shrimps. The depths the pots are lowered to varies from 5 to 20 m, where the bottom consists of either mud, sand or rocks.

Parapandalus narval (Fabricius, 1787) is the species most commonly taken and is the only species of shrimp fished for commercial purposes in Madeiran waters.

On the 6th of July 1984, in a pot placed near the end of the town pier, on muddy bottom, at 5 m depth, only one specimen of a shrimp was taken which was identified by the author as *Palaemon serratus* (Pennant, 1777), based on the key to the species of the genus *Palaemon* given by Zariquiey Alvarez (1962). The only species of this genus known from

* Museu Municipal do Funchal, 9000 FUNCHAL - MADEIRA

Madeira was *P. (Palaeander) elegans* Rathke, 1837 which is very common in the littoral zone of Madeira and the Salvage Islands, where it abounds, particularly in tide pools.

The geographic distribution of *P. serratus*, as given by Lagardère (1981), extends from Morocco to Mauritania, to the North along the coast of Europe as far as Denmark, as well as the Mediterranean. The Archipelago of Madeira had so far not been included in the distributional area of this species.

The specimen treated here is registered under MMF 23625. It arrived at the Museum in perfect condition and alive, so that it was possible to observe its natural colouration. It is an adult female which must have spawned shortly before being captured as only about 45 eggs with developed embryos still adhered to the abdomen.

The length of the rostrum measured 25.8 mm and that of the carapace 19 mm. The rostral formula of the specimen was found to be 1+7+1.

In spite of the authenticity of the locality the specimen in question was found in and the fact that this species undertakes migrations as a result of variation of temperature (Lagardère, 1981) we cannot entirely exclude the possibility that it was introduced through transportation on the hull of ships that regularly connect Madeira with ports of Europe, particularly with Portugal, where this species is very common.

I would like to express my thanks to Prof. L. B. Holthuis and Dr. M. Türkay for useful information and to Mr. G. E. Maul who kindly read the manuscript and offered helpful suggestions.

REFERENCES

- Holthuis, L. B. :
 1949. The Cariden Crustacea of the Canary Islands. *Zool. Mededel.*, XXX (15) : 227-225.
 1951. The Cariden Crustacea of Tropical West Africa. *Atlantide-Report* No. 2 : 7-187.
- Lagardère, J. P. :
 1981. Shrimps and Prawns. In: *FAO Species Identification Sheets for Fishery Purposes-Eastern Central Atlantic, Fishing Areas 34, 47 (in part), Vols. 1-7: pag. var. Fischer, W., G. Bianchi and W. B. Scott Eds. Canada Funds-in-Trust. Ottawa, Dept. Fish, and Oceans Canada, by arrangement with FAO.*
- Zariquiey Álvarez, R. :
 1968. *Crustáceos Decápodos Ibéricos. Inv. Pesq.*, Tomo 32 : I-XV; 510 pp. Barcelona, Agosto 1968.

Correction : Line 15 from above, instead of 1+7+1, read $\frac{1+7+1}{5}$