

Mesanthura miyakoensis, a new anthurid isopod
from Miyakojima Island, Ryukyu Islands, Japan

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***Mesanthura miyakoensis*, a New Anthurid
Isopod from Miyakojima Island, Ryukyu Islands, Japan***

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琉球列島宮古島から採集されたウミナナフシの一新種（甲殻類，等脚目）

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琉球列島宮古島狩俣から採集されたウミナナフシを新種 *Mesanthura miyakoensis* (和名モヨウウミナナフシ) として記載した。本種は *Mesanthura paucideus* Menzies and Glynn に最も似るが(1)第7胸節前節が長いこと、(2)背面とくに頭節および腹節の模様、(3)両触角の形態などによって区別される。なお本種はわが国における *Mesanthura* 属の2番めの種である。

During a survey trip to the Ryukyu Islands made in the early summer, 1975, a small but beautiful anthurid isopod specimen was collected by my friend, Mr. Teruaki Nishikawa, and handed over to me for study. At closer examinations, it proved to represent a new species of the genus *Mesanthura*. As far as I am aware, 10 species have hitherto been recorded as valid for the genus from various parts of the world, but *Mesanthura nigrodorsalis* Nunomura has been the only species recorded in Japan. The above specimen, preserved in alcohol, was dissected and examined in glycerol. All the figures were drawn by using camera lucida.

Before going further, I wish to express my sincere gratitude to Dr. Saburo Nishimura of the Kyoto University for reading the manuscript, to Mr. Teruaki Nishikawa of the Seto Marine Biological Laboratory for the donation of the precious specimen, and to Mr. Yasuhiro Nakajima of the Kyoto University for his kindness to supply me with a copy of F. E. Beddard's paper which was indispensable for the present study.

***Mesanthura miyakoensis*, n. sp.**

(Japanese name: Moyô uminanafushi)

(Text figures 1 and 2)

Material examined: 1♀ (holotype, 5.5mm in body length), from 3m deep, on a rock near a coral reef, Karimata, Hirara City, Miyakojima Island, Ryukyu Islands, coll. Teruaki Nishikawa, June 28, 1975. Type specimen is deposited at the Toyama Science Museum, (Cr-101). Unfortunately male specimen has not been collected.

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Description: Body slender and about 13 times as long as wide except both antennae. Body color white with black pigments between eyes and scattered pigments behind it; each peraeonal somite with marginal pigments of hexagonal arrangement and variously shaped pigments in it; pleon with a roof-shaped and some irregularly shaped pigments; telson also irregularly pigmented. Endopod of uropod partly pigmented.

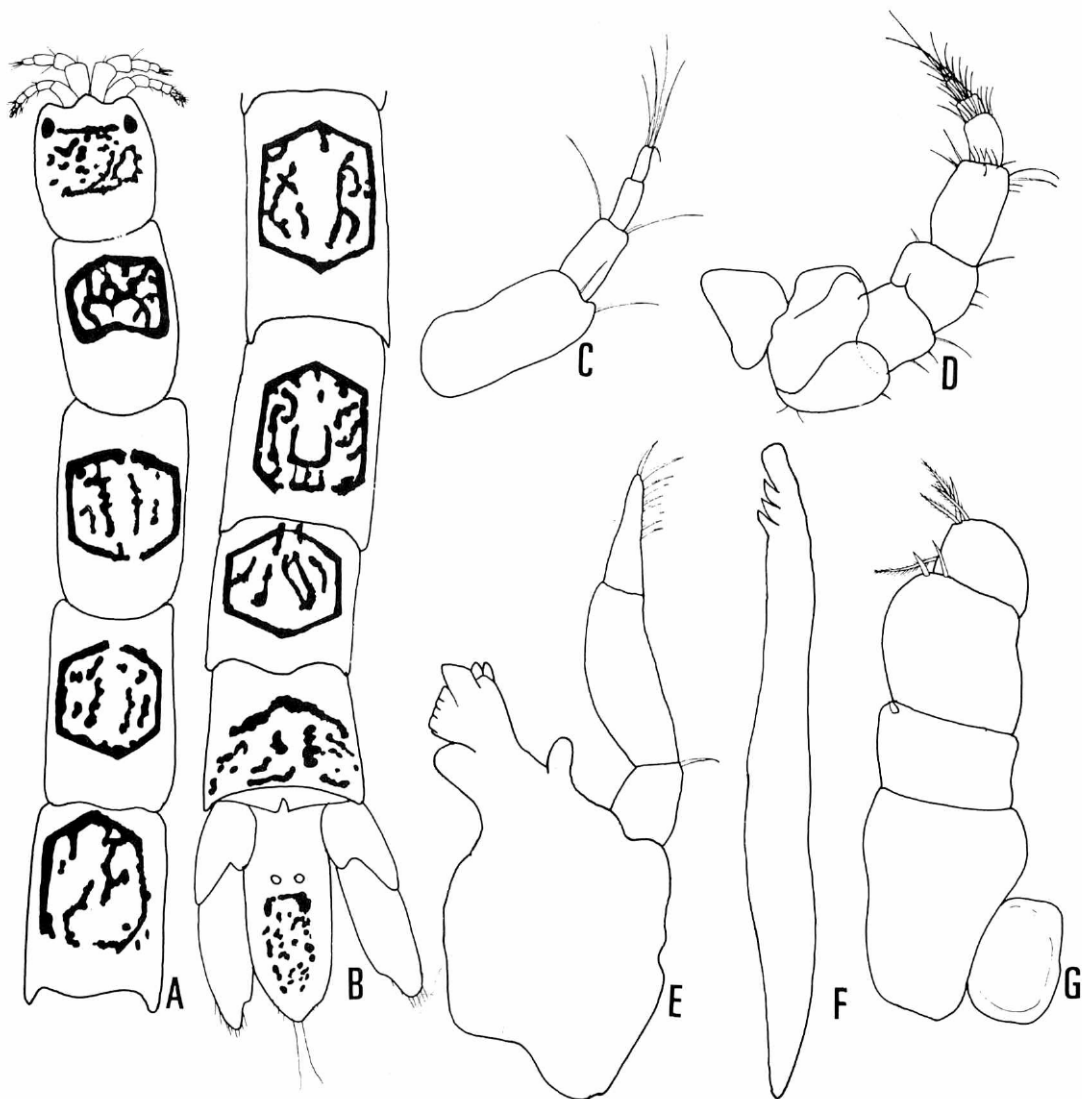


Fig. 1. *Mesanthura miyakoensis*, n. sp.

A: Anterior part of body in dorsal view. B: Posterior part of the same.

C: First antenna. D: Second antenna. E: Mandible. F: First maxilla;

G: Maxilliped (A - G: holotype female)

A new species of Mesanthura from Miyakojima Island

Rostral projection beyond anterolateral angles of cephalon. The three frontal angles are all rounded. Eyes mediocre with about 20 ocelli. Peraeonal somites not pitted. Demarcation of pleonal somites not visible. Endopod of uropod extended as backward as the telson.

First antenna composed of four segments in female; first segment big and oblong; second segment shorter than the first by about three-fifths; third segment shorter than the second by about one-fourth; terminal segment shorter than the third by one-fourth and equipped with five setae at the tip. Second antenna composed of 10 segments and longer than the first in female; second segment big and grooved; distal two segments small.

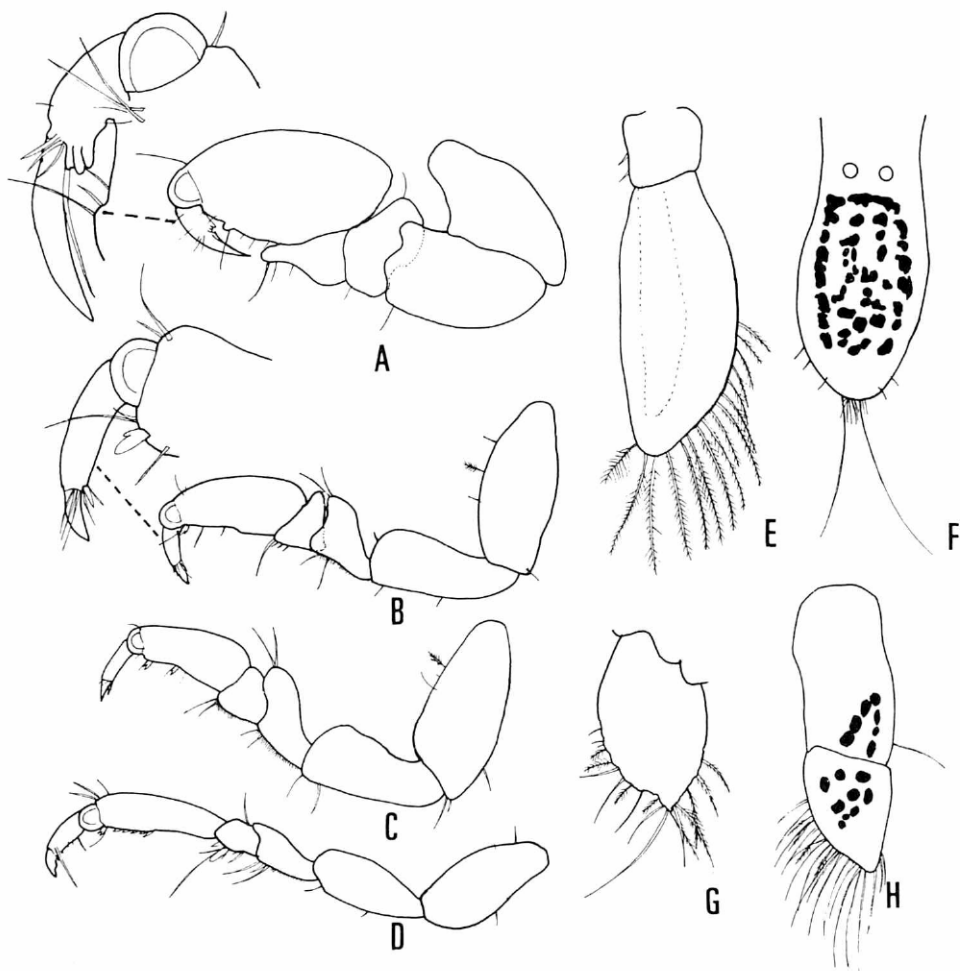


Fig. 2. *Mesanthura miyakoensis*, n. sp.

A–C: Peraeopods I–III, D: pereopod VII, E: Pleopod I, F: Telson, G: Exopod of uropod, H: Endopod of uropod (A–H: holotype female)

Mandible with a three-segmented palp, terminal segment with nine setae at the inner distal part; incisor represents a large projection and a few of smaller projections; cutting flange with five teeth; molar process represents a low knob. First maxilla with about one large and three small apical teeth. Maxilliped with four free segments; first segment biggest and oblong; second segment short with a short seta at distal part: and a simple and three plumose setae at the tip.

Peraeopod I subchelate; basis triangular; ischium rectangular; merus short; carpus triangular; propodus big with a process and several setae on inner margin; dactylus with a claw, a long narrow spine, three shorter spines and three processes. Peraeopods II – VII are walking legs and similar in shape to one another; basis and ischium oblong; merus somewhat long with two or three long setae and many fine hairs; carpus also triangular with several setae and many fine hairs; propodus oblong; dactylus with a claw.

Pleopods in female are not modified. Exopod of uropod egg-shaped with rather sinuate margin. Endopod of uropod consists of rectangular basal segment with a seta, and terminal segment with a few of plumose setae and about a dozen simple long setae. Telson lanceolate with a pair of round statocysts at basal part, and with two long setae and several short setae at the tip.

Remarks: The present new species seems to be most closely allied to *Mesanthura pacidens* Menzies and Glynn from Puerto Rico. But the former differs from the latter by the following points: (1) longer propodus of peraeopod VII. (2) pigment patterns, especially on cephalon and pleon, (3) shape of both antennae, and (4) less slender body.

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