

PORCELLIO (HEMINAGARA) TAHITIENSIS, NEW SUBGENUS
AND SPECIES, AND OTHER TAHITIAN TERRESTRIAL
ISOPODS*

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In the introductory section to my report on the terrestrial and fresh-water isopods collected by the Pacific Entomological Survey in the Marquesas Islands,¹ some mention was made also of the species taken in the Society Islands, from which no woodlice had been previously recorded. In this paper are given a description of a new subgenus from Tahiti, and records of four other species which were collected by the Survey in the Marquesas as well as in Tahiti. The Tahitian collection was made by Mr. A. M. Adamson in 1928.

In my Marquesan paper I have already expressed my thanks to Mr. E. P. Mumford of the Pacific Entomological Survey for allowing me to study the collection, and to Mr. R. B. Brook-Greaves for his most able assistance in the preparation of illustrations.

FAMILY ONISCIDAE

SUBFAMILY ONISCINAE

Genus PHILOSCIA

1. *Philoscia* (*Setaphora* ?) *fasciata* Jackson.

Tahiti: Papenoo Valley, altitude 350 feet, October 25, 1928; Hitiaa, altitude about 1500 feet, November 20, 1928; Vaipuarai, August 28, 1928, altitude 1800 feet; Adamson.

This species, which I assigned with hesitation to the subgenus *Setaphora* was described from specimens collected on several of the Marquesas islands.

SUBFAMILY PORCELLIONIINAE

Genus PORCELLIO

Subgenus HEMINAGARA, new subgenus

Nagaroides was constituted a subgenus of *Porcellio* by Wahrberg (1922) to lie by the side of *Nagara* Budde-Lund on the sufficient grounds of the differences in the mandible, the hind margins of the thoracic tergites, and

¹ *Philoscia* (*Setaphora*?) *fasciata* Jackson: B. P. Bishop Mus., Bull. 114, 1933.

* Pacific Entomological Survey Publication 6, Article 17.

the maxilla. (In the summary given by Herold² of the differences between the two genera, the characters of the maxilla are placed in the wrong columns and should be transposed.) This single specimen has characters intermediate between the two genera and some of its own. In the following diagnosis the characters common to either genus are noted in brackets.

Mandibles: R. penicilli 1 + 1, L. 1 + 2. (*Nagara*).

Maxillula: outer endite 4 + 6 (1, 4, 6 large, 2, 3 very slender, 5 very slender and small, 1? and 4 bifurcate); on face below 1 a minute spine; on inner border small bunches of setae.

Outer endite of maxilla sharply curved on inner side (*Nagaroides*).

Maxillipede: endite with three teeth on distal edge, two thorn-like on outer side, one smaller and blunt on inner corner. On face one long spine, greatly exceeding margin and to its inner side one triangular tooth scarcely exceeding margin; one minute spine in inner edge; not setose.

Posterior edge of thoracic tergites sinuate (*Nagaroides*).

2. *Porcellio (Heminagara) tahitiensis*, new species (fig. 1).

Length, 5 mm.; breadth, 2.5 mm.; shape, oblong-oval.

Surface smooth and minutely scaly.

Head. Eyes small, compact, convex, each 20 ocelli; median lobe of frontal line not sharply separated from vertex, but well marked; in center of crest a shallow depression; lateral lobes prominent, rounded narrow; marginal line appears to join lateral edge of lateral lobes; profrons convex, covered roughly with scales, postfrons smooth; clypeus, rounded, setose and scaly, lateral processes small; genae deeply excavated.

Thorax: tergites I to IV distinctly sinuate at sides, V and VI curved, VII sinuate; posterolateral angles little produced; angles of VII reaching to hind border of third abdominal segment.

Abdomen: I and II broad, remainder with well-developed posterolateral angles; telson triangular, sides deeply emarginate, apex somewhat rounded.

Appendages: Antenna absent. Mandibles: R. penicilli 1 + 1; L. penicilli 1 + 2; inferior seta, composed of a large group of penicilli. Maxillula: outer endite as described above; inner endite with long sharp spine on outer edge and two long slender penicilli. Maxilla: lobes nearly equal and provided with three stout setae in cleft. Outer lobe retreating and weakly setose, inner lobe composed of outer membranous weakly setose portion and inner more strongly developed bristly portion; inner margin curved. Maxillipede: endite as described above, endopod with two bristle groups composed of few very long setae. Pleopoda: distal border of first exopod of male with sinuate hind border produced to small point on inner side. Uropod: protopod half length of telson, nearly as broad as long, triangular excavation on outer side; exopod lanceolate, stout, setose; endopod originates far back at base of protopod, which it only exceeds by about one-third of its length, actual length nearly that of exopod, scarcely exceeding tip of telson, setose.

Color, uniform dark purple inclined to leaden.

Tahiti: Fautaua Valley, altitude 750 feet, September 10, 1928, 1 male, Adamson.

Type in Bernice P. Bishop Museum, Honolulu.

² Herold, Werner, Land-Isopoden von den Sunda-Inseln: Arch. für Hydrobiologie, p. 359, Suppl. Bd. ix, Bd. 2, 1931.

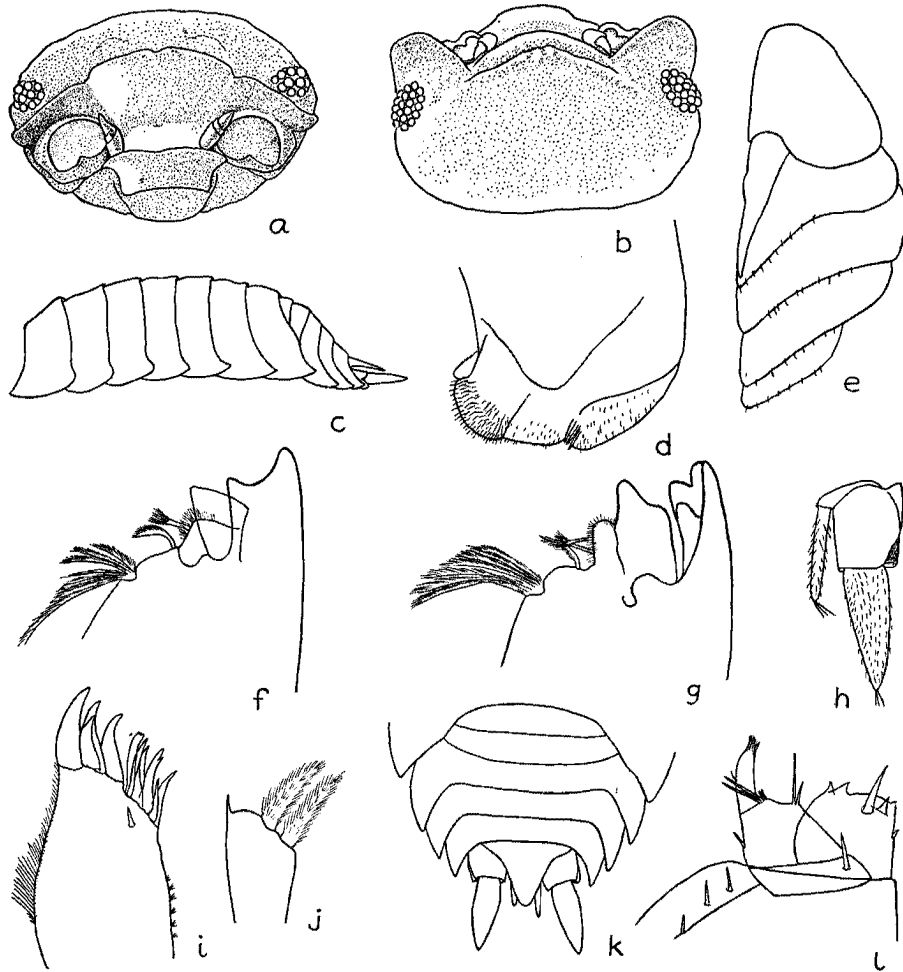


FIGURE 1.—*Porcellio (Heminagara) tahitiensis* new species: *a*, head, from front; *b*, head, from above; *c*, thorax and abdomen, from side; *d*, maxilla; *e*, pleopoda, male; *f*, right mandible; *g*, left mandible; *h*, uropod, from below; *i*, maxillula, outer endite; *j*, maxillula, inner endite; *k*, abdomen and uropoda; *l*, maxillipede.

SUBFAMILY ARMADILLINAE

Genus SPHERILLO

3. **Spherillo (Spherillo) montivagus** Budde-Lund.
Tahiti: Fautaua Valley, altitude 750 feet, September 10, 1928, Adamson.
Recorded also from the Marquesas, Samoa, and Tonga.
4. **Spherillo (Xestodillo?) marquesarum** Jackson.
Spherillo (Xestodillo?) marquesarum Jackson: B. P. Bishop Mus., Bull.
114, 1933.
Tahiti: Vaipuarii Valley, altitude 1800 feet, August 28, 1928, Adamson.
This species was collected also on Uapou, Marquesas Islands.

Genus CUBARIS

5. **Cubaris murinus** Verhoeff.
Nesodillo medius Verhoeff: Fritz Sarasin und J. Roux, Nova Caledonia,
Zoologie, vol. 4, L. 2 (München).
Cubaris murinus, Jackson: B. P. Bishop Mus., Bull. 114, 1933.
Tahiti: Papeete, August 28, 1928.
This species has been found on many of the Pacific islands. Its synonymy
is discussed in my Marquesan paper.