

with anterior and posterior corners evenly rounded. Dorso-posterior half heavily chitinized. Height relatively larger than in parthenogenetic female. Carapace around the resting egg heavily pigmented. Ehippium with a single egg.

Male: Length 0.24-0.25 mm. Height rather narrower than in the females (mentioned above). Length-height ratio 10 : 6. Males are characterised by their cigar-shaped antennules which have equal width throughout their length. First leg with a pair of strong copulatory hooks, with a knob-like struc-

ture at their bases. Postabdomen broad but smaller in size than in females. Basal spines large, more than half the length of terminal claw. Terminal claw similar but much shorter than that of female.

I thank the Director, Zoological Survey of India, Calcutta for approval of the project, and Dr G.M. Yazdani, Scientist and Officer-in-Charge of this Station, for providing necessary facilities.

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PRAMOD D. RANE

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31. *BOSMINOPSIS DEITERSI* RICHARD, 1895 — A NEW RECORD FOR WEST BENGAL (CRUSTACEA : CLADOCERA)

(With three text-figures)

During the course of a survey in 1991-92, we came across hundreds of specimens of a cladoceran, *Bosminopsis deitersi* Richard in the river Ganga at Barrackpur, West Bengal (22° N, 88° E). Literature on the cladoceran fauna of West Bengal is scanty. Except for Sharma's (1978) report on the occurrence of about 28 species, there is no other elaborate study for this region. The present study reports the occurrence of *B. deitersi* for the first time.

Family: Bosminidae Sars, 1865

Genus: *Bosminopsis* Richard, 1895

Bosminopsis deitersi Richard 1895 (Figs. 1-3)

Female: Body oval, maximum height near posterior end of the body. Postero-dorsal corner of valves distinct: postero-ventral corner with a small process and with 1-2 spinules before it (Fig. 1). Head rounded with a projection just near the eye, rostrum long with two lateral branches near the apex and a long olfactory seta. Eye large, just touching the anterior margin. Valves with faint polygonal reticulation, ventral margin rounded, slightly serrated and with a long and pointed marginal spine. Post-abdomen small and tapering dis-

tally, lateral side with two groups of slightly large denticles followed by groups of fine spinules (Fig. 2). Claw serrated and concave with a bipasal spine. Head shield ornamented with longitudinal and polygonal reticulations (Fig. 3).

Distribution: INDIA: Yamuna river, Delhi (Brehm 1963), Ghana Canal, Keoladeo National Park, Rajasthan (Venkataraman 1987), Irinjalakuda, Kerala (Michael and Sharma 1988), Malaysia (Idris 1983) and China (Seich-chih and Nan-Shan 1979).

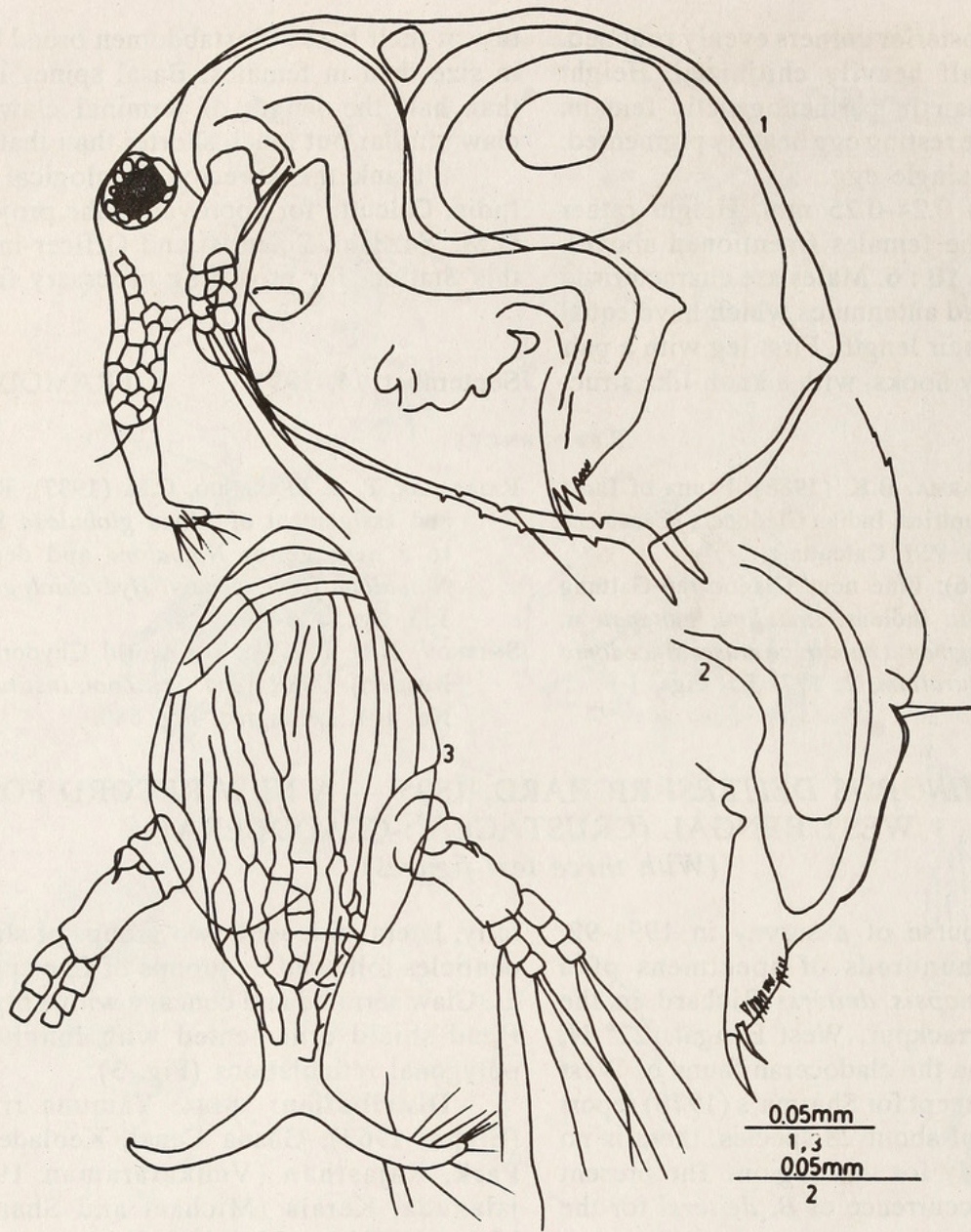
Venkataraman (1987) discussed the validity of a new species, *B. devendarai*, described by Rane (1984) from a tank near Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh, resembling *B. deitersi*. The present study also agrees well with the data given by Venkataraman (1987). The specimens examined by us match the description given by Idris (1983) and Michael and Sharma (1988).

We are grateful to the Director, ZSI, Calcutta for facilities provided to conduct this study.

K. VENKATARAMAN

January 2, 1992

S.R. DAS



Figs. 1-3. *Bosminopsis deitersi*, female. 1. Lateral view, 2. Postabdomen, 3. Head shield.

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