



Calanoid Copepods Of China Seas-Introduction And Acknowledgement

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PREFACE

Calanoid Copepods of China Seas

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Introduction and Acknowledgement

After nearly 29 years of study, teaching, and research in Canada, in 1995, I made a short visit to Taiwan to understand current marine biological studies in Taiwan. I discovered that marine zooplankton research was almost non-existence. Returning to Canada, I was carefully planning what I could do to help Taiwan. My decision was that I made an early retirement in 1996 and came back to Taiwan trying to build up marine biological studies in Taiwan. I also collected a large number of copepod references and sent them to Taiwan in advance by mail.

At the beginning, with the help of Prof. Huang Chungchia, my former classmate and then head of Zoology Department of the National Taiwan University, I applied a research position at Zoology Department from the National Research Council.

First I cooperated with Prof. Chiu Taisheng of the same department to work on copepods in his KEEP collection from the East China Sea, north of Taiwan (Shih & Chiu, 1998). My former research was mainly in hyperiid amphipods (one of the major marine zooplankton) and other marine zooplankton, copepods included of the Atlantic, Pacific, and Arctic oceans surrounding Canada. Therefore this study was my first experience in western Pacific copepods. From then on marine copepods of the western North Pacific have become my major studies. Later I was appointed as Professor at the Institute of Oceanography, NTU, temporarily to replace Prof. Liu Hsichiang who was on loan to the Academia Sinica.

By the end of 1999 spring session, I was ready to return to Canada. In a conversation with the Academician Dr. Liao I-Chiu, I told him about my leaving. He was curious to know my intention to develop copepod studies in Taiwan. When he knew my positive answer then promised to apply a special fund from the National Research Council to support me. His application was success. I returned to Taiwan in early 2000. After Dr. Liao, several professors also helped me to stay in Taiwan, including Prof. Lo Wen-tseung of the National Sun Yatsen University, Prof. Lee Ming-An of the Department of Marine Environment and Ecology of the National Taiwan Ocean University and Prof. Chiang Kuoping of the Institute of Marine Environment and Ecology of the National Taiwan University.

I found it difficult to help students classify copepod species without any suitable keys and proper literature. To solve this difficulty the only way is to establish a key by myself. Fortunately there is the new development of a website for marine planktonic copepods produced by the Sorbonne University, CNRS and available at <http://copepodes.obs-banyuls.fr/en> which provides illustrations and descriptions cited from original publications. A key to a total of 546 calanoid copepod species known to occur in the China

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seas (from Bohai Sea southward to Yellow Sea, East China Sea and South China Sea) is thus compiled and available at the website <https://bio.odb.ntu.edu.tw/> copbook. So if one goes to this website, to find out the genus of the specimen, then can proceed further to the present key to find out what species of the genus is. This connection facilitates marine zooplankton studies on calanoid copepods in Taiwan and adjacent waters.

Of course it is not reasonable to assume that this key will be good forever. New records or new species may be discovered from time to time. I intend and with the help of co-workers, including yourself, to make regular and suitable addendum in this key to cope up with the new addition. May we all share with the success of this key!

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Chang-tai Shih, 2022