Key to the species of Tharybidae Neoscolecithrix occurring in the China Seas

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**Key to the species of Tharybidae *Neoscolecithrix* occurring in the China Seas**

Chang-tai Shih a,*, Qing-Chao Chen b, Yang-Chi Lan c, Shih-Hui Hsiao d, Chi-Yu Weng e

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1a</th>
<th>Female</th>
<th>Neoscolecithrix japonica(2a/f), koehleri(2b/f) (Male not available)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1b</td>
<td>Male</td>
<td>Neoscolecithrix japonica(2a/f), koehleri(2b/f) (Male not available)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2a/1a</td>
<td>Leg 5 asymmetrical and thin, right leg slightly longer than left leg, terminal segment length 7 times width</td>
<td>Neoscolecithrix japonica(2a/f), koehleri(2b/f) (Male not available)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2b</td>
<td>Leg 5 strong and symmetrical, terminal segment length 3 times width</td>
<td>Neoscolecithrix koehleri(2b/f) (Male not available)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**Neoscoleithrix japonica** Ohtsuka, Boxshall et Fosshagen, 2003 (Size: female, 3.23–3.33 mm; male, 3.31–3.41 mm)

Ohtsuka, Boxshall & Fosshagen, 2003: Fig. 4. Female (from Ie Island, Okinawa): A/B, habitus (dorsal/lateral); C, Prosomal end and urosome (lateral); D, anal somite and left caudal ramus (ventral); E/F, genital double-somite (ventral/lateral; G, antennule, segments 1 to 13; H/I, antennule, segments 14 to 24; J, antenna exopod; K, antenna endopod; L, mandibular palp; M, leg 5 (anterior).

Ohtsuka, Boxshall & Fosshagen, 2003: Fig. 1. Male: A/b, habitus (dorsal/lateral); C, rostrum; D/E, prosomal ends and urosome (dorsal/lateral); F, anal somite and right caudal ramus (ventral); G, antennule; H, distal large aesthetasc on 3rd segment of antennule (ancestral V); I, spiniform element on 9th segment of antennule (ancestral XIII); J, distal compound segment of antennule (ancestral XXVII-XXVIII); K, antennule; K, antenna; L, exopod of A2; M, masticatory edge; N, mandibular palp.

Ohtsuka, Boxshall & Fosshagen 2003: Fig. 2. Male: A, maxillule (praecoxa and coxa); B, maxillule (basis and rami); C, phront of apostome ciliate (?) on maxillulary seta; D, maxilla (elements on 2nd coxal endite and endopod omitted); E, brush-like sensory seta on 1st coxal endite of maxilla; F, 2nd coxal endite of maxilla; G, endopod of maxilla; H, rudimentary element on endopod of maxilla; I, largest verriform sensory seta of endopod of maxilla; J, maxilliped (setae on endopod omitted); K, endopod of maxilliped.

Neoscoleithrix koehleri Canu, 1896 (Size: female, 3.00–4.00 mm; male, 3.50–4.00 mm)

Farran, 1905: pl. 10. Neoscoleithrix japonica Ohtsuka, Boxshall & Fosshagen, 2003, Female. 15. habitus (lateral); 16. rostrum (ventral); 17. antennule; 18. antenna. Pl. 11. 1. mandibular palp; 2. mandible cutting edge; 3. maxillule; 4. maxilla; 5. maxilliped; 6–8. legs 1–3; 9. leg 5; 10. leg 5 (from another specimen); 11. leg 2.