

NOTA BREVE

**FIRST RECORD FROM PANAMA OF THE FRESHWATER
COPEPOD *Yansacyclops ferrarii* (CYCLOPOIDA:
CYCLOPIDAE)**

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The apparently neotropical endemic cyclopoid copepod genus *Yansacyclops* Reid, 1988 includes two known species. The type species *Yansacyclops ferrarii* Reid, 1988 was found in freshwater tidal tributaries of the Amazon River south of Belém, Brazil. *Yansacyclops neotropicalis* (Dussart, 1984) was described from a single male collected in the Orinoco River, Venezuela.

We report the discovery of a single mature female of *Y. ferrarii* in a collection from Panama. The specimen was found by one of us (IMM) among specimens of *Microcyclus* in an ethanol-preserved sample in the collections of the United States National Museum of Natural History (USNM). The sample (USNM 79787) was collected in a "surface tow" from a "fresh water pond, Panama" on 6 August 1925, and donated by Charles B. Wilson. Further particulars regarding the collection site are unavailable. The specimen, now dissected on a slide in glycerine, has been assigned the new USNM catalogue number 243774.

Morphologically, the female from Panama is slightly different from females of the Brazilian population. The longer spines on the posterior ventromedial corners of the anal somite (Fig. 1A-C, arrows) form a distinct group in the Panama female, but are continuous with the more lateral spines in females from Brazil. The caudal rami (Fig. 1A, B) are slightly shorter (length 1.8 times longer than the anal somite) and broader (4.75 times longer than wide) in the Panama female than in Brazilian specimens (length 2.0 times longer than the anal somite; 5.0 times longer than wide) (Fig. 1C). Its outermost terminal caudal seta is much longer (0.9 times as long as the caudal ramus) than the corresponding seta in Brazilian specimens (about 0.55 times as long as the caudal ramus). The setae on the rami of swimming legs 2-4 are slightly shorter rather than slightly longer than the terminal spines of these rami. Otherwise, the appendages and ornamentation of the Panama female closely resemble the Brazilian specimens.

Features common to both populations and not included in the description of Reid (1988) include the presence of a seta on the middle of the terminal segment of the antennule (Fig. 1D, arrow), and a row of tiny teeth along the middle third of the claw of the maxilla.

Both species were originally collected in plankton tows in large rivers. This report extends the known habitat of the genus *Yansacyclops* from lotic to lentic environments, as well as significantly expanding its range into Central America.

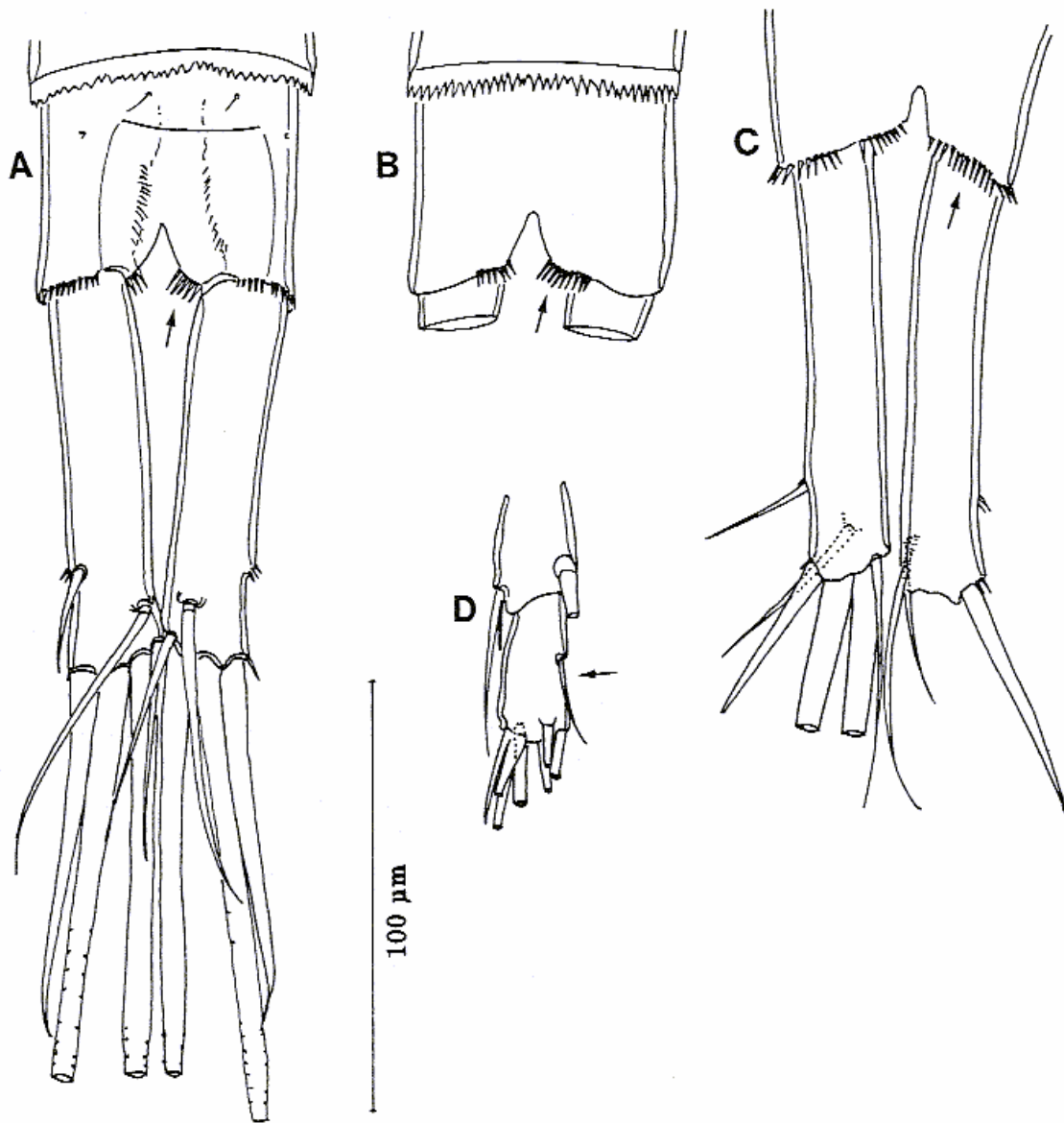


Figure 1. *Yansacyclops ferrarii*, adult females: A, Caudal ramus of specimen from Panama (USNM 243774), dorsal; B, Anal somite of same specimen, ventral; C, caudal ramus of paratype specimen from Brazil (USNM 234105), ventral; D, terminal 2 segments of antennule of specimen from Panama.

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