

ON A NEW GENUS AND FOUR NEW SPECIES OF THE SUBFAMILY CYPRETTINAE HARTMANN, 1971 (OSTRACODA, CRUSTACEA) FROM TROPICAL FLOODPLAINS IN BRAZIL

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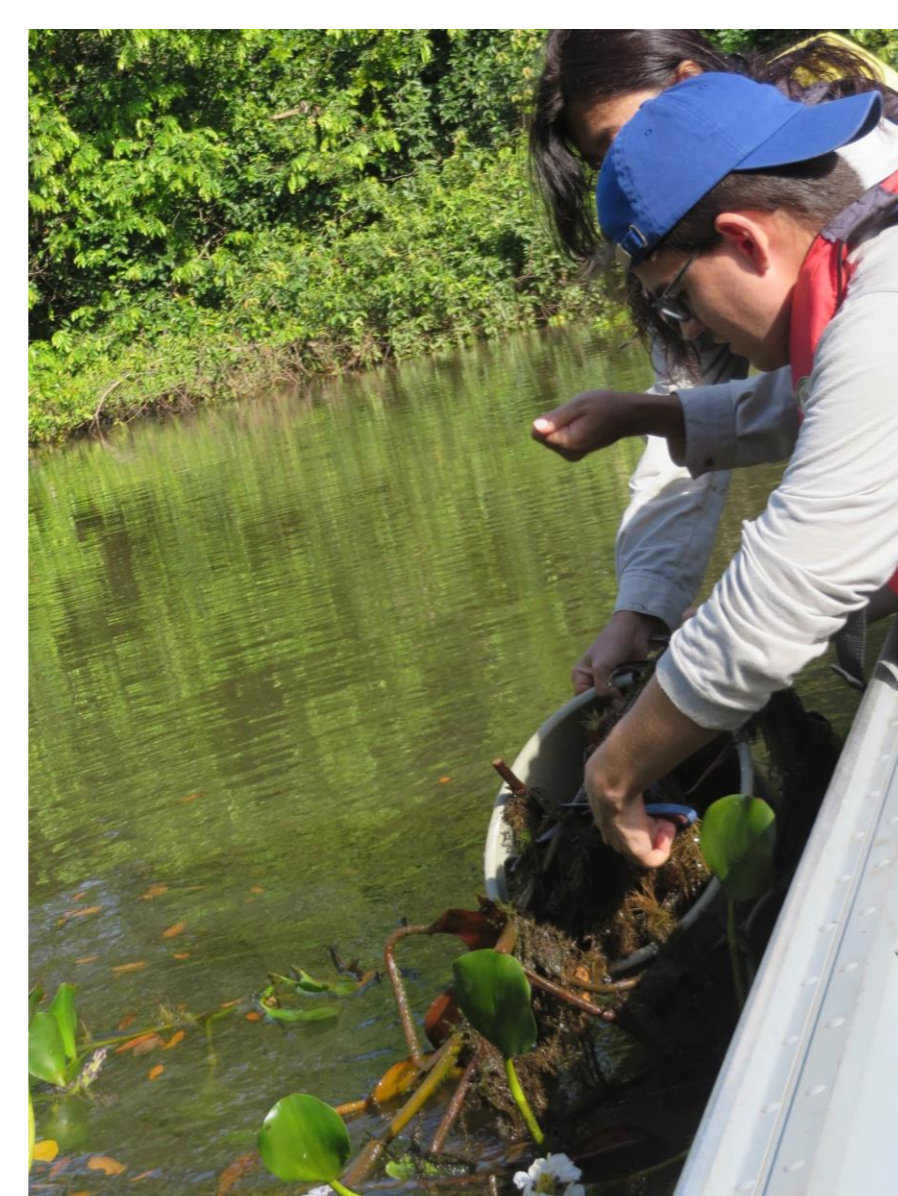
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Introduction

The genus *Cyprretta* Vavra, 1895 is diverse in circumtropical areas. It is characterized by the globular shape of the carapace and the presence of marginal septae in both valves. Recent collections in Brazilian floodplains yielded four new species resembling *Cyprretta*. However, detailed observations of valves and appendages showed consistent differences with this genus. Here, we present a new genus and four new species from the four main Brazilian floodplains.

Materials

Ostracods were collected from the sediment-water interface (littoral) and from aquatic vegetation, in the Amazon, Araguaia, Pantanal and Paraná rivers floodplains (Brazil) (Figures 1-3).



Figures 2-3. Ostracod sampling.

Figure 1. Localities of the floodplains where the Gen. 1 n. gen. was recorded. 1, Paraná River floodplain; 2, Pantanal floodplain; 3, Araguaia River floodplain; 4, Amazon River floodplain.

Results and Discussion

The new species were found associated with aquatic macrophytes, and with benthos in both lentic and lotic environments. Only female populations were recorded. Valves of the new genus are rounded to triangular in lateral view with greatest height in the middle, while in *Cyprretta* s.s is more elongated (Fig. 4I) and have marginal septae on both valves (not visible in SEM) (Fig. 4). However, they lack the series of inner tubercles on the posteroventral corner of the right valve present in all *Cyprretta* s.s (Fig. 4J). A marked anterior protrusion on the right valve occurs in two of the new species (Fig. 4 D, F).

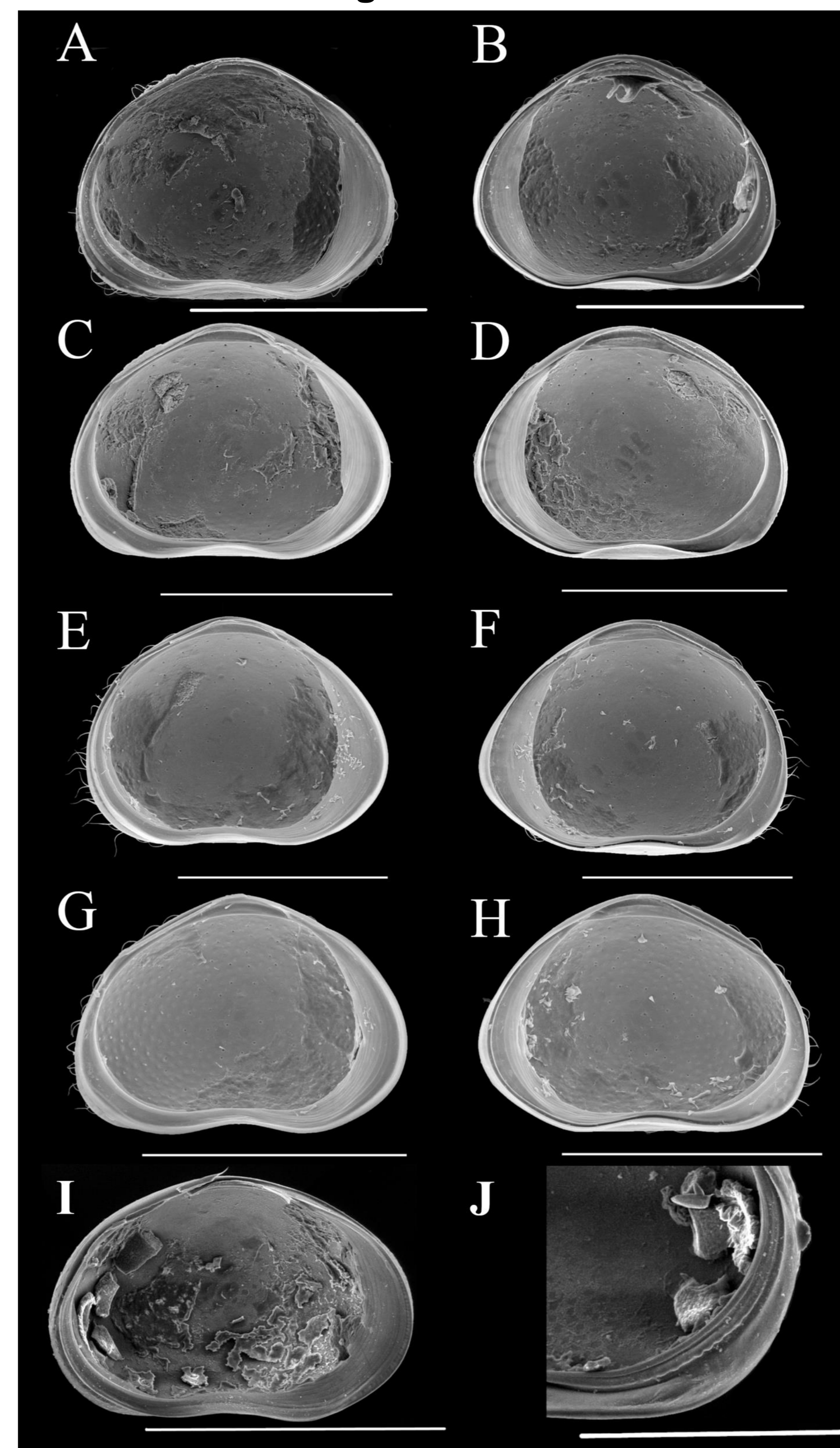


Figure 4. A-B, N. gen 1. n. sp. A; C-D, N. gen 1. n. sp. B; E-F, N. gen 1. n. sp. C; G-H, N. gen 1. n. sp. D. I-J, *Cyprretta tenuicauda* (Vávra, 1895). A, C, D, E, G, I, left valve inner view. B, D, F, H, J, right valve inner view. Scale bars: A-B, I, 500µm; C-H, 400µm; J, 250µm.

The appendage morphology of the new genus is characterized by a much shorter d1 seta on the T2 and thinner and smaller α and β setae on the mandibular palp, while the caudal ramus on the new genus is also more slender than in most *Cyprretta* species (Fig.5).

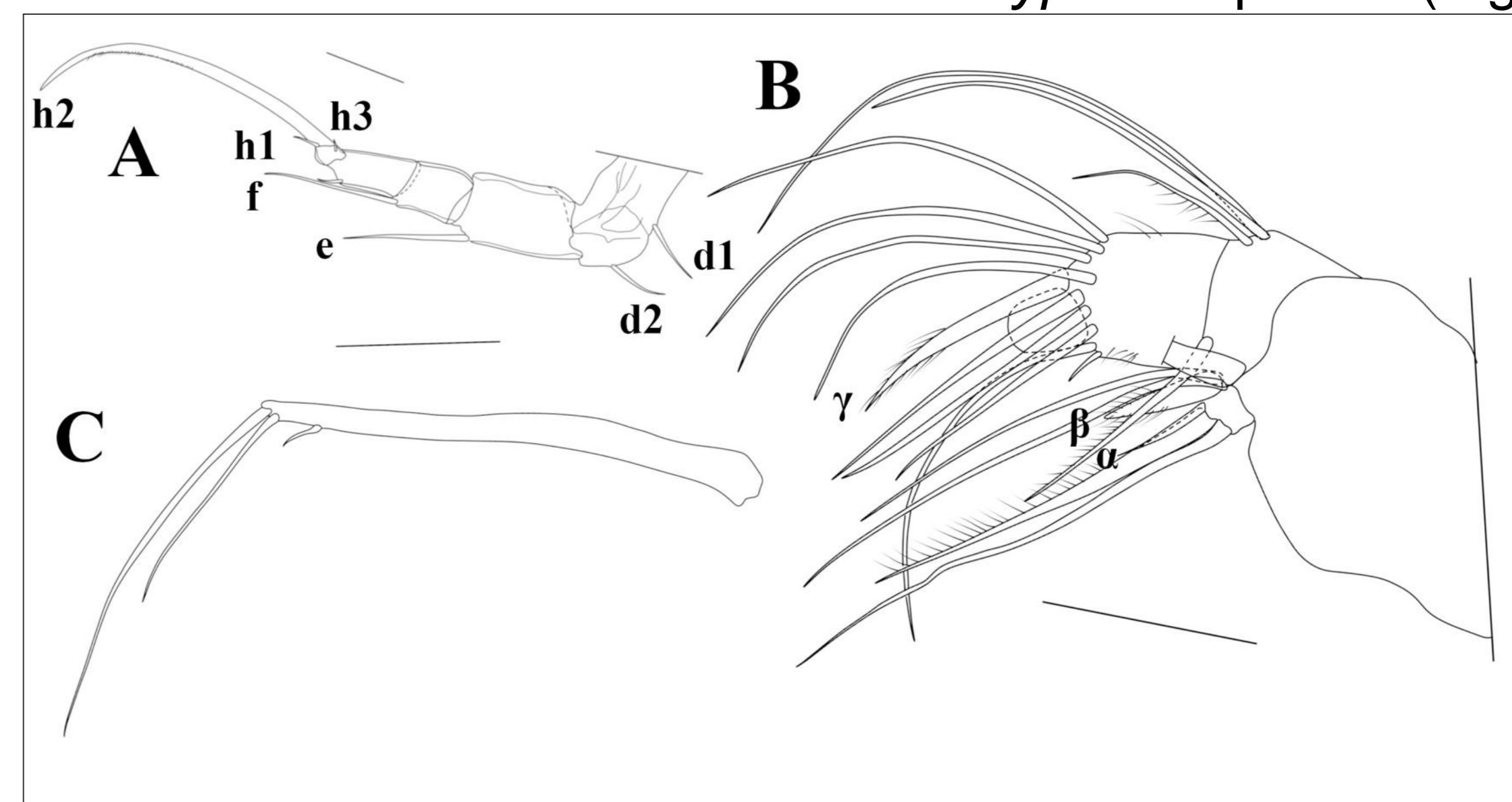


Figure 5. A, T2. B, MdPalp (last segment not illustrated). C, CR. Scale bar: 50µm.