

Branchiobdellidans (Annelida: Clitellata) Found in the Crayfish Collection of Swedish Museum of Natural History with Remarks on Swedish Branchiobdellid Fauna

Mitko A. Subchev

Institute of Zoology, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, 1 Tsar Osvoboditel Blvd., 1000 Sofia, Bulgaria; e-mail: subchev@zoology.bas.bg

Abstract: Sixty three samples containing 129 crayfish from the crayfish collection of Swedish Museum of Natural History were examined for branchiobdellidans (Annelida: Clitellata). As a result 89 crayfish worms were found, separated and identified. The branchiobdellidans were found on crayfish from Croatia, Denmark, Germany, Greece, Montenegro, Russia and Sweden, and belonged to five species: *Branchiobdella astaci* ODIER, 1823, *Branchiobdella parasita* BRAUN, 1805, *Branchiobdella pentodonta* WHITMAN, 1882, *Branchiobdella hexodonta* GRUBER, 1882 and *Branchiobdella balcanica* MOSZYNSKI, 1937. Those of *B. parasita* and *B. pentodonta* provide the first record of this group in Denmark. The large amount of crayfish material examined from Sweden supported the suggestion that *B. parasita* is the only member of the genus in this country.

Key words: *Branchiobdella*, crayfishes, crayfish epibionts