Postilla

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Recently during the preparation of a comprehensive account of the lake plankton (Hutchinson, in press) a rather unfortunate case of homonymy was discovered in the genus *Cypria*. In 1932 Brehm brought forward the name *Cypria pelagica* for a planktonic species from Laguna-de Petén, Guatemala. Brehm mentioned several characters of the species and commented that they suggest “Beziehungen zu der südamerikanischen *Cypria pellucida* Sars.” Since his remarks merely indicate apparent affinities with *pellucida* but unhappily contain no “statement that purports to give characters differentiating the taxon,” the name *pelagica* Brehm (1932) appears to be, under Article 13a of the International Code, invalid and must be treated as a nomen nudum.

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In the next year Klie (1933) published a description of *Cypria javana* subspec. *pelagica* from lakes in Java and Bali, which is apparently identical with a pelagic species from the Lake of Colombo erroneously identified by Apstein (1907) as *Cypris purpurascens* Brady. Whatever the status of Klie's form may be, the name *pelagica* was validly proposed as subspecific, and in view of the invalidity of Brehm's use of *pelagica* in the previous year, cannot be used for any other subsequently described *Cypria*.

Brehm (1939) returned to the problem and gave an illustrated description of *Cypria pelagica*, presumably based on the material to which he had referred in 1932. Recently we have had the opportunity to examine specimens of what is doubtless the same species, collected in the Laguna de Petén by Drs. Georgiana B. and Edward S. Deevey. In view of the history of the species a new specific name is clearly required.

**Family CYPRIDAE** Baird 1845

**Genus CYPRIA** Zenker 1845

*Cypria petenensis* n. sp.

Figs. 1-6

**Specific characters:** Female—Eye prominent. Valves translucent, surface with scattered hairs and without other ornamentation, anterior and posterior margins with sparsely placed hairs; shell seen from the side boldly arched, greatest height near middle, anterior and posterior margins broadly rounded, ventral margin of right valve convex, that of left slightly concave; length of valves 0.52 mm—0.53 mm, height 0.31 mm—0.32 mm. Natatory setae of second antennae reaching beyond tips of end-claws by more than twice the length of the claws; distal end of antepenultimate podomere bearing a short seta with an elongate plumose terminal portion; olfactory club apparently with four segments. Mandibular palp is a very striking structure, respiratory plate with five prominent setae; antepenultimate and penultimate podomeres with long, plumose setae on ventral margins; ultimate podomere with two smooth spines and a longer two-segmented spine bearing two lateral rows of short setae at tip. Proximal podomere of maxillary palp very wide and bearing four long setae on laterodistal margin; width of distal podomere equal to length with three pectinated spines; spines of
*Cypria petenensis* n. sp.—Drawings of figures 1, 3, 4, 5, and 6 were made from the female holotype stained with lignin pink and mounted in polyvinyl lactophenol. The drawing of figure 2 was made from the androtype stained in a 1% alcoholic solution of eosin Y and mounted in Canada balsam.

all three masticatory processes two-segmented and smooth. Ultimate podomere of third thoracic appendage with two short setae of unequal lengths and a long, reflexed seta equal to the combined lengths of the antepenultimate, penultimate and ultimate podomeres; terminal margin of penultimate podomere with a patch of setae. Furcal ramus strongly developed, stout, length approximately $10\times$ least width; dorsal seta short, occasionally inconspicuous and removed from the subterminal spine by the length of spine; terminal and subterminal spines pectinated; length of subterminal spine about eight-tenths that of terminal; terminal seta one-third length of subterminal spine.

**Male**—Valves similar to those of female. Testes extend as circuitous bands along margins of valve. Prehensile palps of first thoracic appendages dissimilar; penis triangular. Males appear in numbers equal to females.

**Type locality:** The type specimens were collected on March 10, 1961 by Drs. Georgiana and Edward S. Deevey from the Laguna de Petén, Guatemala.

**Type specimens:** Microscopic mounts of the holotype and androtype are deposited in the Yale Peabody Museum (YPM 5670, 5671). Paratype male and females have been deposited in the British Museum (Natural History) and the Zoologisches Museum, Hamburg, Germany.

**References**


