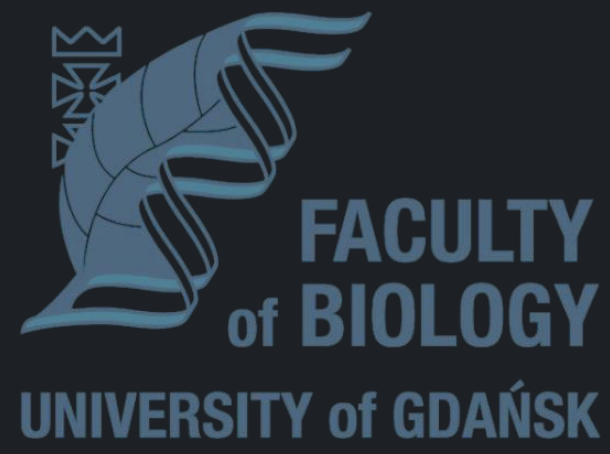


Variation in the carapace ornamentation of a new species of *Pseudocypris* Daday, 1910 (Crustacea, Ostracoda) from South Africa

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Diagnosis of *Pseudocypris* sp. nov.

Carapace (Cp) in lateral view with dorsal margin slightly arched with greatest height in front of mid-length and sloping towards the posterior edge. Lateral ala c. 1/3 of the width of one valve, not equally wide along the circumference of the Cp. External surface delicately reticulate with large spines, especially in postero-dorsal areas. Anterior margin of RV serrated. LV slightly overlapping RV posteriorly. A2 with long swimming setae. Md-palp with two claws and four setae. Terminal segment of Mx1-palp elongate with five setae. T1 with six hirsute rays. Prehensile palps 2-segmented, left palp with terminal segment hook-like, long and narrow, right one with terminal segment wider and shorter than left one. Penultimate segments of T2 and T3 undivided. CR stout, well developed. Hp with pointed medial shield (ms), dorsal lateral shield (dls) small subrectangular, ventral lateral shield (vls) subtriangular, wide and large, dorsal margin sunken, proximally arched and beak-like apically.

Type locality: South Africa, North-West Province, small temporary grass pan near the Barberspan lake (SA-16); 26°33'19"S, 25°36'32"E

Additional material: South Africa, North-West Province

SA-3: temporary grass pan near the Witpan; 26°24'26"S, 25°36'10"E

SA-7: endorheic pond near Deelpan; 26°20'43"S, 25°36'49"E

SA-8: endorheic open Kopelapan near the village of Kopela; 26°25'16"S, 25°31'32"E

SA-10: grass pan near Hattingh Farm; 26°26'29"S, 25°37'13"E

Intraspecific variability

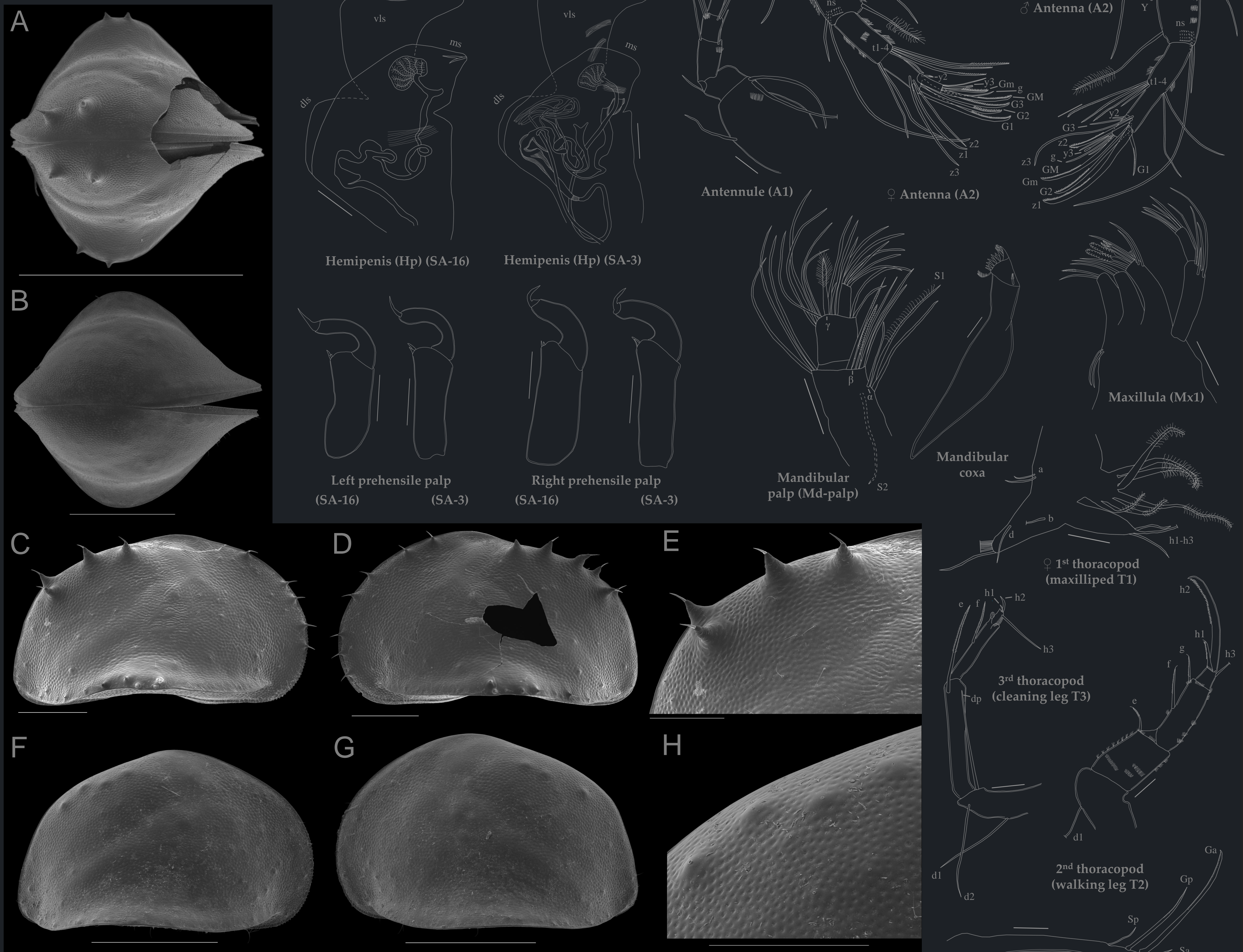
Specimens from sites SA-3, SA-7, SA-8, SA-10 differed from the holotype (SA-16) primarily in the lack of spines on valves. Their carapaces are slightly larger and have a narrower ala. LV of the holotype is more elongated. Ostracod without spines have a more rounded ms and almost straight dorsal part of the vls. Specimens from site SA-3 have nodules on the carapace in places where ostracods from SA-16 have spines. This morphological variation in ornamentation may be attributable to the site-specific environmental conditions or differential predation pressures combined with a genetic component. Notably, the spined carapace appears to develop only during the last juvenile stage, as younger stages from all studied sites exhibit smooth carapaces.

♂ (SA-16): LV: L = 2202, H = 1218; RV: L = 2101, H = 1211 μm

♂ (SA-3): LV: L = 2335, H = 1515; RV: L = 2358, H = 1458; Cp: L = 2347, W = 2225 μm

♀ (SA-16): LV: L = 2205, H = 1313; RV: L = 2218, H = 1348; Cp: L = 2291, W = 2197 μm

♀ (SA-3): LV: L = 2395, H = 1548; RV: L = 2418, H = 1533; Cp: L = 2373, W = 2065 μm



A. ♀ SA-16 CpD; B. ♀ SA-3 CpD; C. ♂ SA-16 RV; D. ♂ SA-16 LV; E. ♂ SA-16 RV, detail of postero-dorsal part of C; F. ♂ SA-3 RV; G. ♂ SA-3 LV; H. ♂ RV, detail of postero-dorsal part of F. Scale = 2000 μm for A; 1000 μm for B, F-G; 500 μm for C-D; 400 μm for H; 300 μm for E.

Scale bars for limbs: 100 μm