

rami; dorsal seta long and 1.85-2.05 times as long as the outer apical one; inner apical seta longer and about twice the length of the outer apical seta; inner medial seta 1.50-1.70 as long as the outer medial one.

In the males the furcal rami are slightly longer than in the females both in specimens from Greece and in those from Southern Italy.

REMARKS.

The specimens of *M. subdolos* from Greece and from Southern Italy and the original description of the species by Kiefer (1938), all agree, except in the following features. (1) The distal article of P_5 of the Greek and Italian specimens are slightly longer than large, with ratio L/l constantly more than 1, compared to the description by Kiefer. (2) The mean ratio between the inner and the outer apical setae of the furcal rami is greater (2.00-2.15) in the specimens from

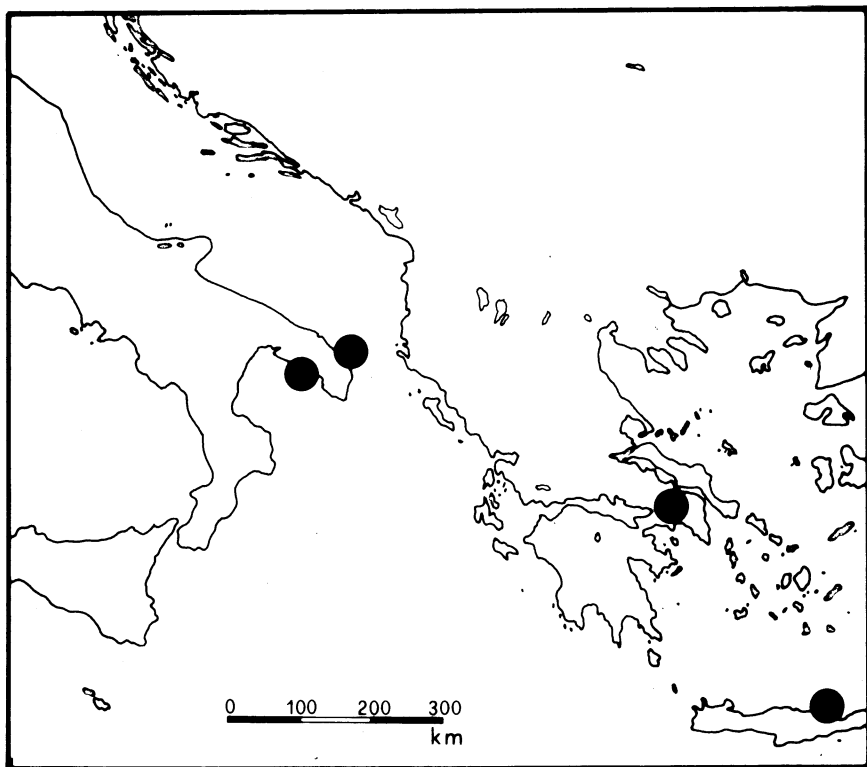


Fig. 2 - Up to date distribution of *Metacyclops subdolos* Kiefer

Greece than in those from Southern Italy and in Kiefer's description (1.78-1.87).(3) The furcal rami are slightly shorter ($L/l=2.71-3.01$) in the Greek specimens than in the Italian ones ($L/l=3.05-3.36$).(4) The spine on the distal article of P₄ is slightly longer in the specimens from Italy than in those from Greece.(5)The dorsal setae on the furcal rami are longer in the specimens from Italy as compared to those from Greece.

Moreover, the specimens from Southern Italy live in slightly brackish subterranean waters, near the Ionian and Adriatic Sea coasts, while those from Greece were from subterranean fresh-waters.

From all of the above systematic and ecological differences we consider the specimens from Greece and those from Southern Italy as isolated, well differentiated, populations of the same species.

Finally, as far as we know, *M.subdolos*, once considered endemic to the Salentine Peninsula, Southern Italy (Kiefer, 1938; Ruffo, 1955), now has wider distribution and it could be regarded, for the present time, as southern trans-adriatic species. Further researches and records could enlarge and better define the geographical distribution of the species.

RIASSUNTO

Vengono riportati nuovi dati sulla distribuzione di *Metacyclops subdolos* Kiefer, specie sino ad oggi ritenuta endemica della Penisola Salentina (Italia Meridionale) e sulla cui validità sistematica erano state già avanzate alcune riserve (Ruffo, 1955).

Le nuove raccolte, provenienti da pozzi di acqua dolce della Grecia Meridionale (Attica) e dell'Isola di Creta, vengono confrontate con altre della stessa specie recentemente ottenute dall'Italia Meridionale, compresa la località tipica.

L'A. aggiorna la distribuzione geografica di questa specie come pure definitivamente conferma la sua validità sistematica.

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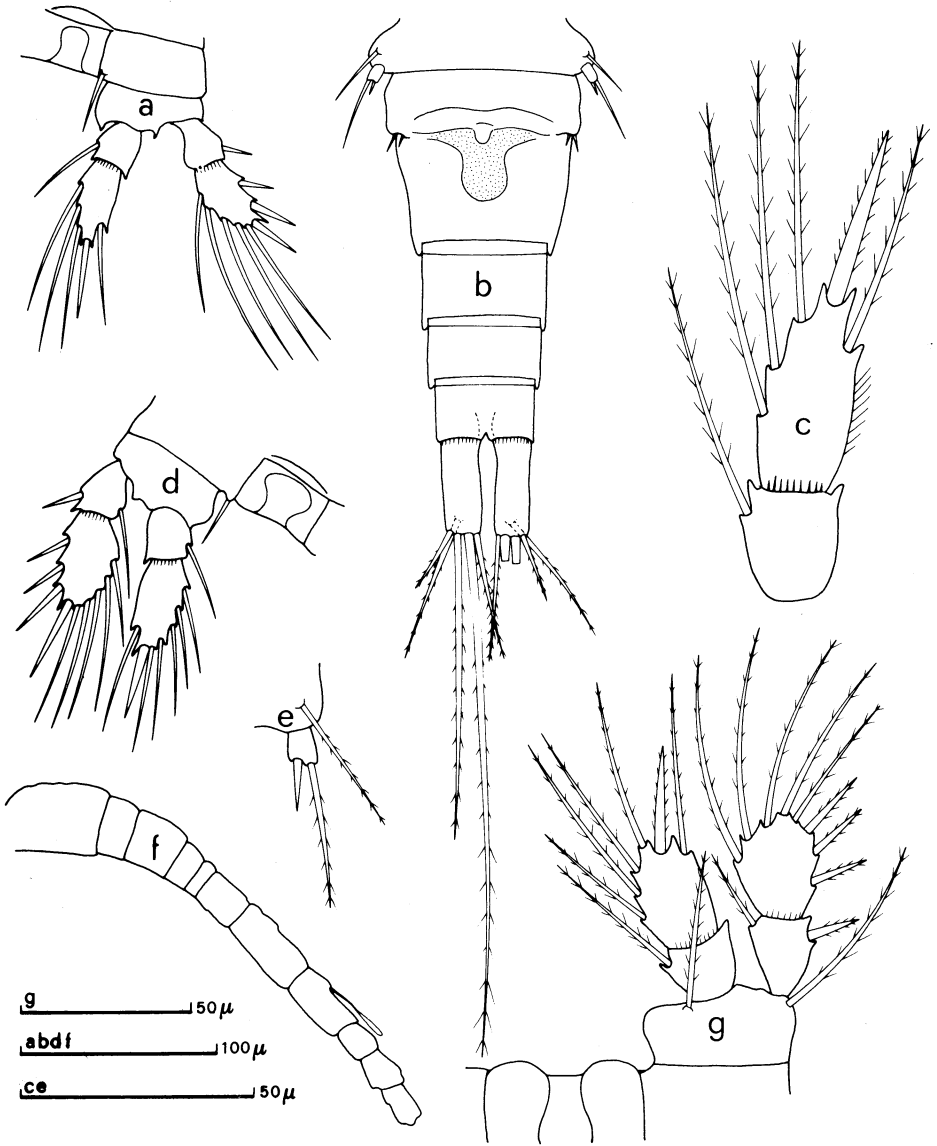


Fig. 1 - *Metacyclops subdolos*, Island of Crete
 a.P4; b.abdomen with furcal rami, ventral view; c.P4, endopod; d.P3; e.P5; f.first antenna; g.P1

P₆:bearing two slender and short (slightly longer in the males) setae, subequal in size.

Furcal rami subparallel, 2.85-3.20 (specimens from Greece)and 3.10-3.39 (specimens from Southern Italy) times longer than wide (wide measured at the level of the lateral setae). Lateral setae inserting at the 2th terminal half of the