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RHIZOCEPHALA IN MAINE

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Rhizocephalan barnacles have been collected on the coast of Europe, the British Islands, and Greenland but have not been found on the Atlantic coast of North America, though early naturalists made vague reports of their occurrence (Boschma 1928). Dr. Edward Reinhard informed us that he had found peltogastrids on hermit crabs in the Mt. Desert region and at his suggestion we visited Googan's Ledge.

Alongshore we collected 30 hermit crabs on August 1, 1938. Of these 29 proved to be Pagurus pubescens Kröyer and one was P. acadianus Benedict. Ten of the former bore 11 rhizocephalans on their abdomens, one having two of the parasites. These were more or less sausage shaped and usually curved (Fig. 1). Their sizes and colors are shown in Table 1. Number 8 was apparently a spent individual and Number 9 was shriveled.

TABLE 1. Peltogaster paguri Rathke collected on Googan's Ledge, near Mt. Desert Island, Maine: August 1, 1938.

No.	Length of hosts' ~		—Peltogaster——	
110.	carapace, mm.	Length, mm.	Width, mm.	Color
1	20.0	13.2	7.7	Red-orange
2	19.0	13.0	5.8	Red-orange
3	18.0	21.0	9.0	Cream-reddish
4	18.0	6.3	2.2	Red
5	16.5	17.0	9.5	Brown-red
6	15.3	17.0	9.5	Brown-red
7	15.0	16.5	8.5	Red-brown
8	15.0	10.0	2.3	Black
9	14.0	8.5	3.8	Red-cream
10	13.0	(10.5) 9.0	5.6 4.5	Cream-red Red-brown

The rhizocephalan was identified as Peltogaster paguri Rathke (Family Peltogastridae), and this was confirmed by Dr. H. Boschma, to whom specimens were submitted. This parasite has previously been reported as infesting Pagurus pubescens Kroyer from Greenland, Faroe Islands, and Kattegat along the North European coast, and has been found in deep water in the North Atlantic Ocean. On Mount Desert

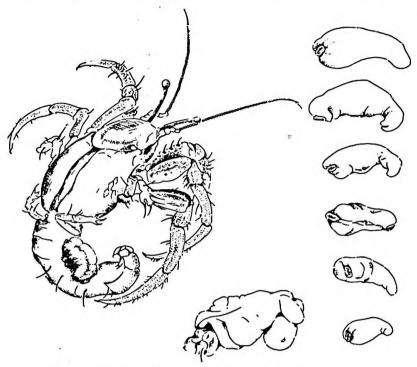


FIG. 1.—Peltogaster paguri Rathke, a rhizocephalan parasitic on Pagurus pubescens Kröyer. At the left a parasite is shown attached to the abdomen of a hermit crab; at the right are seven cleistosaccids. Drawn from preserved specimens and notebook sketches by J. W. Littler.

Island 31 specimens of *Pagurus pubescens* were examined from various localities, but none was infested with cleistosaccids. Another species of hermit crab was searched for rhizocephalans but none was found on it. This was *Pagurus acadianus* Benedict: 38 specimens on Mount Desert Island, July 27-30, and 53 at Brigus, Newfoundland, August 15-18, 1938.

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