Notes on the Distribution of Wood-Boring Teredines in the Tropical Indo-Pacific

V. V. Srinivasan

Extensive work has been carried out on the taxonomy of the Teredinidae of the east coast of India, the Philippines, the Hawaiian Islands, and other areas in the Pacific (Becker, 1958; Daniel, 1956; Nair, 1961; Rajagopal, 1964; Saraswathi, 1964; Sivickis, 1928; Bartsch, 1921, 1922, 1927; Moll and Roch, 1931; Roch, 1935, 1940, 1955a, 1955b; Miller, 1924; Edmondson, 1941, 1942, 1946, 1959). Recently Turner (1966), in her "Catalogue of the Teredinidae," has redefined the genera and proposed a new system of classification. During a recent survey of the Teredinidae of the Hawaiian Islands it was possible for the author to collect material, study Dr. Edmondson's types, and draw conclusions on the possible mode of distribution of the teredines in the tropical Indo-Pacific area.

The study at Hawaii was based on collections at different sites on the island of Oahu, the island of Kauai and from Dr. C. H. Edmondson's type collections at the Bishop Museum in Honolulu. Also panels of Douglas fir and white pine were suspended at various depths at two different sites—one at Kewalo Basin, Honolulu and the other at Coconut Island, Kaneoe—and teredines were collected after an immersion period of about 3 months. Material from the Madras coast was collected from drift logs washed ashore on the Madras beach (Mylapore and Triplicane areas), from floating pieces of wood, from underwater wooden structures like piles and catamarans, and from test planks which were submerged in Madras harbour during 1965–1967. Specimens collected were identified using Turner's revised classification. The following are the species that occur on the Madras and Hawaiian coasts. Of the 18 species (11 of them new species) described by Edmondson, only 12 seem to be valid. Also, 27 species of teredines have been described from the Madras coast and these refer only to 13 valid species. The original names as well as synonyms (* from the Madras coast, ° from the Pacific islands) have been listed here.

**Bankia carinata** Gray

*Bankia (Bankiella) edmondsoni* Nair

*Bankia (Bankiella) indica* Nair

**Bankia campanellata** Moll and Roch

*Bankia (Bankia) bengalensis* Nair

**Bankia bipennata** Turton

*Bankia (Plamulella) lineata* Nair

*Bankia (Neobankia) lineata* Nair

*Bankia (Neobankia) denticuloserrata* Daniel

**Lyrodus pedicellatus** Quatrefages

*Teredo (Teredo) indica* Nair

*Teredo (Lyrodus) malaccana* Roch

*Teredo (Teredo) madrasensis* Nair

°*Teredo (Teredo) honoluluensis* Edmondson

°*Teredo (Teredops) diegensis* and var. midwayensis Edmondson

**Dicyatiber manni** Wright

*Teredo (Kuphus) manni* Wright

**Teredora princesae** Sivickis

*Teredo (Teredora) gregoryi* Dall et al.

*Teredo (Teredora) minoris* Nair

*Teredo (Dactyloteredo) dieberichseni* Roch

°*Teredo (Teredora) gregoryi* Dall et al.

**Nototeredo edax** Hedley

*Teredo (Psiloteredo) tondiensis* Nair and Gurumani

*Teredo (Dactyloteredo) juttingae* Roch

**Uperotus clavus** Gmelin

*Teredo (Teredora) clava* Gmelin

*Teredo (Teredora) vatanensis* Nair and Gurumani

*Teredo (Teredora) rebderi* Nair

**Nautilus dunalloi**e Wright

*Bankia (Nautilus) madrasensis* Nair

*Nautilus lanceolata* Rajagopal

**Teredo furcifera** von Martens

°*Teredo (Teredo) furcillatus* Miller

1 Marine Organisms Scheme, Zoological Research Laboratory, University of Madras, Madras-5, India. Part of this work was carried out while the author held a F.A.O. (UN) fellowship in 1966. Manuscript received April 5, 1967.

2 Refer to Nair (1961) for earlier papers.
From Table 1 it is clear that while 11 species of teredines are generally well distributed from Madras to the Philippine coast, the others are mostly confined to Hawaii and the Pacific, and are not represented in the rest of the areas. Of the seven species recorded from Hawaii, T. bartschi, T. clappi, and T. fullerii seem to extend farther and invade the Gulf of Mexico and the Caribbean while others are indigenous.

* Lyrodus medilobata Edmondson
  * Teredo (Cornteredo) medilobata Edmondson
  * Teredo triangularis Edmondson
  * Teredo (Cornteredo) milleri Dall et al.
  * Teredo fullerii Clapp
  * Teredo (Zopoteredo) fullerii Clapp
  * Teredo clappi Bartsch
  * Teredo (Zopoteredo) trulliformis Miller

From Table 1 it is clear that while 11 species of teredines are generally well distributed from Madras to the Philippine coast, the others are mostly confined to Hawaii and the Pacific, and are not represented in the rest of the areas. Of the seven species recorded from Hawaii, T. bartschi, T. clappi, and T. fullerii seem to extend farther and invade the Gulf of Mexico and the Caribbean while others are indigenous.

* Lyrodus medilobata Edmondson
  * Teredo (Cornteredo) medilobata Edmondson
  * Teredo triangularis Edmondson
  * Teredo (Cornteredo) milleri Dall et al.
  * Teredo fullerii Clapp
  * Teredo (Zopoteredo) fullerii Clapp
  * Teredo clappi Bartsch
  * Teredo (Zopoteredo) trulliformis Miller

From Table 1 it is clear that while 11 species of teredines are generally well distributed from Madras to the Philippine coast, the others are mostly confined to Hawaii and the Pacific, and are not represented in the rest of the areas. Of the seven species recorded from Hawaii, T. bartschi, T. clappi, and T. fullerii seem to extend farther and invade the Gulf of Mexico and the Caribbean while others are indigenous.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Table 1</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The Distribution of Important Species of Wood-Borers in the Indo-Pacific Area</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SPECIES</th>
<th>MADRAS</th>
<th>PACIFIC ISLANDS</th>
<th>PHILIPPINES</th>
<th>HAWAII</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bankia carinata</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bankia campanulata</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bankia bipinnata</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lyrodus pedicellatus</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X,1,2,3,4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dicyatisfer maui</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teredera princeps</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X,2,3,4,5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nototeredo edax</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uperotus clavus</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nausitora dunlopei</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teredo furcifera</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>1,2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teredothyra smithi</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teredothyra excavata</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bankia bipalmulata</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nausitora sp.</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teredo bartschi</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lyrodus medilobata</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teredo triangularis</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1,7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lyrodus affinis</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teredo fullerii</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1,6,7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teredo clappi</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1,7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* The numbers in this column refer to species reported by Dr. Edmondson from the island of Samoa (1), Canton (2), Johnston (3), Midway (4), Wake (5), Christmas (6), and Palmyra (7).
the Philippine and Hawaiian islands, but also from Samoa, Canton, Johnston, Midway, Wake, Palau, Christmas, and Palmyra islands—all in the tropical Pacific. Hence these species are cosmopolitan in distribution. *T. princesae* was collected from floating timber by the Vityas Expedition (from station No. 5209 in the Indian Ocean), and identified by the author.

While most of the species reported from Madras are from pelagic timber only a few have been successful in invading timbers from enclosed waters (*L. pedicellatus* and *T. furcifera* in Madras harbour; *L. pedicellatus*, *T. furcifera*, *B. campanelata*, *D. manni*, and *N. hedleyi* in Pulicat Lake).

It may be of interest to note the records of occurrence of *B. nordi* Moll (Rajagopal, 1964) and *B. roebi* Moll (Rajagopaliengar, 1961) for the first time along the northeast coast of India at Calcutta.

The apparent discontinuity in distribution of some of the species in the Indo-Pacific area is probably due to non-availability of wood for transportation, lack of intensive collection efforts, or to hydrobiological factors like temperature and salinity which influence breeding. It is also possible that adults may not be able to tolerate wide ranges of temperature and salinity, and this may be a controlling factor for their successful establishment.

**ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

My grateful thanks are due to Dr. G. Krishnan, Director, Zoological Research Laboratory, University of Madras, and Dr. A. Purushotham, Director, Biological Research, Forest Research Institute, Dehra Dun, for their encouragement. I wish to thank also Dr. Roland W. Force, Director, Bishop Museum for his unstinted help during my stay at Honolulu.

**REFERENCES**


