

STUDIES ON THE FAUNA OF CURAÇAO AND OTHER
CARIBBEAN ISLANDS: No. 207

**PICKFORDIATEUTHIS PULCHELLA [CEPHALOPODA:
MYOPSIDA]; RANGE EXTENSION TO BONAIRE (N.A.)**

by

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On August 3, 1982 a small squid was collected opposite "Trans World Radio" at Bonaire (Netherlands Antilles). It was kept in a tank for several hours before it died. The species was identified as *Pickfordiateuthis pulchella* Voss, 1953, hitherto only known from the Florida Keys, U.S.A. According to Voss (1953) it was probably confined to the geographical area represented by the Florida Keys. ABBOTT (1974) mentioned a distribution from southeast Florida to Panama without referring to literature other than Voss (1953).

The specimen from Bonaire, a male, differs from the figure of the holotype (a female) mainly in having proportionally shorter tentacles and the posterior end less bluntly tapered. It agrees well with the male paratype, figured by Voss (1953: fig. 3). The measurements of the specimen are: mantle length 16.0 mm, width 6.9 mm and length of head 7.1 mm. The pigmentation of the dorsal side of the head consists of chromatophores, which are larger and darker than those on the ventral side. The pigmentation on the dorsal side of the mantle is less prominent and consists of more diffuse and smaller spots. The ventral side of the mantle is hardly pigmented with very small dots.

Up to now, only a few species of Cephalopods are known from the Dutch Leeward Islands. ADAM (1937) published on the Cephalopods of Bonaire and Curaçao, and mentioned eight species, including two from a

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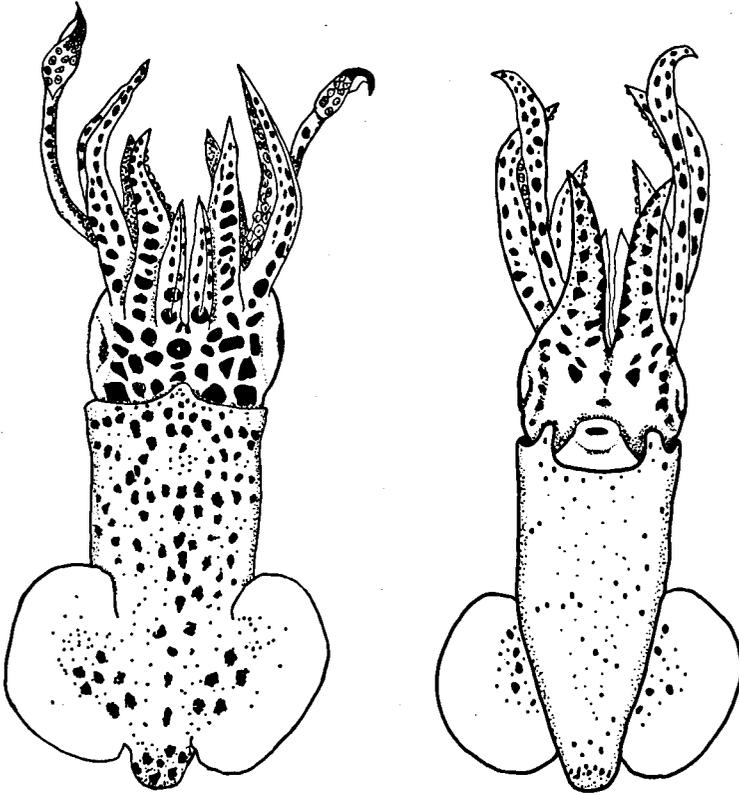


Fig. 50. (left). *Pickfordiateuthis pulchella* Voss from BONAIRE (dorsal side of ♂).

Fig. 51. (right). *Pickfordiateuthis pulchella* Voss from BONAIRE (ventral side of ♂).

literature reference (ROBSON, 1929). DE JONG & KRISTENSEN (1968) mentioned *Spirula spirula* (Linnaeus, 1758) as flotsam on the coast of Curaçao and *Sepioteuthis sepioidea* (Blainville, 1823) from Aruba. In a revision of the littoral Octopoda from the western Atlantic (PICKFORD, 1945), two species mentioned by ADAM (1937) are synonymized (viz. *Octopus rugosus* (Bosc) and *O. vulgaris* Cuvier). Also ADAM's records of *Loligo vulgaris* Lamarck, 1798 and *Lolliguncula brevis* (Blainville, 1823)

are doubtful, since he based these records on material in the Zoological Museum Amsterdam labeled "Indes Occidentales".

Based on literature and material in ZMA the following species are known from the Dutch Leeward Islands:

	ARUBA	BONAIRE	CURAÇAO
Decapoda			
<i>Spirula spirula</i> (Linné)	x	x	x
<i>Pickfordiateuthis pulchella</i> Voss	—	x	—
<i>Sepioteuthis sepioidea</i> (Blainville)	x	x	x
<i>Ommastrephes pteropus</i> (Steenstrup)	—	—	x
Octopoda			
<i>Paroctopus briareus</i> (Robson)	—	—	x
<i>Octopus hummelincki</i> Adam	—	x	x
<i>Octopus vulgaris</i> Cuvier	—	x	x

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