

The Taxonomy of *Sesarma tangi* Rathbun, 1931 and *S. stormi* De Man, 1895 (Crustacea: Decapoda: Brachyura: Grapsidae: Sesarminae), with Establishment of a New Genus for *S. stormi*

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Peter K. L. Ng and Hung-Chang Liu (1999) The taxonomy of *Sesarma tangi* Rathbun, 1931 and *S. stormi* De Man, 1895 (Crustacea: Decapoda: Brachyura: Grapsidae: Sesarminae), with establishment of a new genus for *S. stormi*. *Zoological Studies* 38(2): 228-237. The identities and generic affinities of 2 poorly known species of grapsid crabs, *Sesarma tangi* Rathbun, 1931 and *S. stormi* De Man, 1895, currently provisionally placed in *Chiromantes*, are clarified. The type, and only known specimen of *S. tangi*, from mainland China, is redescribed in detail, and it is retained in *Chiromantes* for the time being. *Sesarma stormi* is redescribed from specimens recently collected in southern Taiwan and is a new record for the island. This species has several peculiar features which indicate that it should be referred to its own genus. Notes on the ecology of *S. stormi* are also provided.

Key words: *Sesarma tangi*, *Sesarma stormi*, New record, New genus.

Serène and Soh (1970), in their reappraisal of the genera of Indo-Pacific Sesarminae Dana, 1851, made only passing comments about the genus *Holometopus* H. Milne Edwards, 1853. In their key, these authors defined the genus for species which do not have the antennae excluded from the orbit, a lateral carapace margin which is entire with no trace of an epibranchial tooth, and the dorsal margin of the palm of the male chela with only 1 longitudinal pectinated ridge or with none at all (see also Tesch 1917: 235). Although Serène and Soh (1970) did not name the species belonging to *Holometopus*, Serène (1968: 107) had earlier listed 13 species from this genus. Two of the species he included in *Holometopus*, however, *Sesarma stormi* De Man, 1895 and *Sesarma tangi* Rathbun, 1931 are poorly known. *Sesarma stormi* was described from specimens collected from northern Sumatra and it has never been reported since then. *Sesarma tangi* was described on the basis of 1 male specimen from Fujian, China, and was redescribed subsequently by Dai et al. (1986) (probably based on the same type

male). Following the nomenclatural amendments by Holthuis (1977: 170), the genus *Holometopus* is now known as *Chiromantes* Gistel, 1848 (type species *Grapsus (Pachysoma) haematochir* De Haan, 1833). The species which had been placed in *Chiromantes* by Serène and Soh (1970) and other workers are now referred to *Perisesarma* De Man, 1895 instead (Holthuis 1977: 171).

Most species of *Chiromantes sensu stricto* have distinctly squarish to subrectangular carapaces. Only 3 species have more trapezoidal carapaces in which the anterior part of the carapace is much wider than the posterior part and the lateral margins distinctly converge towards the relatively narrow posterior carapace margin, viz. *C. obtusifrons* (Dana, 1851), *C. stormi* (De Man, 1895), and *C. tangi* (Rathbun, 1931) (see Tesch 1917, Rathbun 1931, as *Holometopus*).

Of these 3 distinctly trapezoidal *Chiromantes* species, the authors recently had an opportunity to study specimens of 2 Chinese species, *C. stormi* (De Man, 1895) and *C. tangi* (Rathbun, 1931). *C. tangi*

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