

Crabs of the Family Parthenopidae (Crustacea: Decapoda: Brachyura) from Taiwan

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Swee-Hee Tan, Jung-Fu Huang and Peter K. L. Ng (1999) Crabs of the family Parthenopidae (Crustacea: Decapoda: Brachyura) from Taiwan. *Zoological Studies* 38(2): 196-206. Twelve species and 9 genera of parthenopid crabs are here recorded from Taiwan, of which six are new records, viz. *Aethra scruposa* (Linnaeus, 1764), *Aulacolambrus revibrachiatus* (Shen, Dai and Chen, 1982), *Aulacolambrus hoplonotus* (Adams and White, 1848), *Garthambrus stellata* (Rathbun, 1906), *Heterocrypta transitans* Ortmann, 1893 and *Rhinolambrus contrarius* (Herbst, 1804). Of these, the presence of *G. stellata* is interesting as the species was previously known from Hawaii and French Polynesia. Taxonomic problems associated with several species are clarified, and the value of the male 1st gonopods as taxonomic characters is discussed.

Key words: Crab fauna, Crab taxonomy, Parthenopidae.

The study of brachyuran crabs of Taiwan is still in the exploratory phase, with many new records and species being reported over the last few years. Ng and Huang (1997) noted that there were about 330 species of brachyuran crabs in Taiwan from published records. With regards to the Parthenopidae of Taiwan, only 7 extant species have been reported, viz. *Cryptopodia fornicata* (Fabricius, 1781), *Daldorfia horrida* (Linnaeus, 1758), *Parthenope longimanus* (Linnaeus, 1758), *Rhinolambrus lamellifrons* (Adams and White, 1848), *Platylambrus validus* (de Haan, 1839), *Platylambrus echinatus* (Herbst, 1790), and *Platylambrus nummiferus* (Rathbun, 1906) (Horikawa 1940, Lin 1949, Chang 1963, Dai and Yang 1991, Hu and Tao 1996). The present study reports a total of 12 species belonging to 9 genera, a substantial increase in the total parthenopid fauna for the island.

The generic classification of the Parthenopidae generally follows that of Flipse (1930) with some modifications. Following Ng and Rodriguez (1986) and Chia and Ng (1993), most of the subgenera proposed by Flipse (1930) are recognized as full genera. The subfamily Eumedoninae (sensu Flipse 1930) has already been removed and recognized as

a separate family by Stevcic et al. (1988).

Measurements provided are those of the carapace width and length, respectively. The carapace length is measured from the base of the rostrum (if present) to the posterior margin. All specimens examined are deposited in the National Kaohsiung Institute of Marine Technology (NKIMT), Kaohsiung, Taiwan; National Taiwan Ocean University (NTOU), Keelung, Taiwan; Taiwan Museum (TMCD), Taipei, Taiwan; Institute of Oceanology, Chinese Academy of Science (IOCAS), Qingdao, China and the Zoological Reference Collection of the Raffles Museum, National University of Singapore (ZRC), Singapore. The synonymy provided is restricted to those directly related to Taiwan or are of major taxonomic importance.

Family Parthenopidae *Aethra scruposa* (Linnaeus, 1764) (Fig. 1)

Cancer scruposa Linnaeus, 1764: 450.

Aethra scruposa: Dai et al. 1986: 158, fig. 89(2), pl. 21(6); Dai and Yang 1991: 175, fig. 89(2), pl. 21(6).

Material examined: 1 ♀ (87.0 by 58.2 mm)

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