



## The status of *Kunziana* Pretzmann, 1971 (Crustacea: Decapoda: Pseudothelphusidae), with a redescription of the holotype of *K. irengis* Pretzmann, 1971

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### Abstract

This work was prompted by the rediscovery in the Natural History Museum, Vienna, of the holotype of *Eudaniella* (*Kunziana*) *irengis* Pretzmann, 1971, the type species of the subgenus *Eudaniella* (*Kunziana*) Pretzmann, 1971 (family Pseudothelphusidae). Unique characters of the first male gonopod of this species warrant the recognition of *Kunziana* Pretzmann, 1971, as a valid genus. *Kunziana irengis* is redescribed here from the holotype and from new material collected near the type locality in Guyana, South America, and its affinities with other genera of Kingsleyini are discussed.

**Key words:** Taxonomy, freshwater crabs, *Kunziana*, Pseudothelphusidae, Neotropical region, Amazon, Guyana

### Introduction

The identity of most freshwater crab species, especially in the family Pseudothelphusidae, is defined primarily by the morphological structures of the first male pleopod, or gonopod (Smalley 1964; Rodríguez 1982). The brief description (Pretzmann 1971) of *Eudaniella* (*Kunziana*) *irengis* did not include any illustrations. Although Pretzmann (1972) later illustrated the species in his monograph on the Pseudothelphusidae, the photographs of the gonopods did not offer enough resolution to fully understand its construction plan and hence assert specific identity and trace affinities. This lack of information led Rodríguez (1982) to list this taxon as an *incertae sedis*, as he was not able to examine the holotype and judged that the available descriptions to have little diagnostic value (see also Ng *et al.* 2008: 177). Rodríguez (1982) noted that the type material was considered lost by The Natural History Museum London (NHM) and it was deaccessioned from the museum's catalogue in 7 April 1973.

During a visit to the Natural History Museum in Vienna in January 2007, the first author discovered the holotype and one female paratype of *Eudaniella* (*Kunziana*) *irengis*. They were found in a small flask misplaced among the Ivo Poglayen-Neuwall's collection of Central American crabs. This material was subsequently returned to the NHM. The examination of the holotype and additional specimens recently collected in the proximity of the type locality indicate that this is indeed a valid species and that the unusual arrangement of the apical processes of the first male pleopod warrants the recognition of the subgenus *Eudaniella* (*Kunziana*) Pretzmann, 1971, as a distinct genus.

The specimens examined are deposited in the crustacean collections of the NHM, the Instituto Nacional de Pesquisas da Amazônia, Manaus, Brazil (INPA), and the Senckenberg Forschungsinstitut und