

***Amamiku*, a new genus for the true freshwater crab, *Candidiopotamon amamense* Minei, 1973 (Decapoda: Brachyura: Potamidae), from the Central Ryukyu Islands, Japan**

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ABSTRACT

Amamiku, a new genus, is established for *Candidiopotamon amamense* Minei, 1973. *Amamiku* is morphologically most closely related to *Candidiopotamon* Bott, 1967, but they can be differentiated by their male first pleopods. A key to the genera of the Japanese true freshwater crabs is also provided.

Key words: *Amamiku*, new genus, Potamidae, freshwater crabs, Ryukyu Islands, taxonomy

INTRODUCTION

Minei (1973) laid the foundations of the systematics of true freshwater crabs of the Ryukyu Islands. He described three species of *Candidiopotamon* Bott, 1967 from the Central Ryukyu Islands, *C. amamense* from Tokuno-Shima and Amami-Ohshima islands, *C. okinawense* from Okinawa Island, and *C. kumejimense* from Kume Island. Sakai (1976), however, mentioned that the male first gonopod of *C. amamense* apparently differed from that of *C. okinawense*. The present study reassesses the systematic position of *C. amamense*.