

***Heterocarpus tenuidentatus*, a new species of shrimp from the Solomon Islands (Crustacea, Decapoda, Caridea, Pandalidae)**

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Abstract

Heterocarpus tenuidentatus **n. sp.** is described from an ovigerous female collected off the Solomon Islands at a depth of between 814 and 980 meters. It is distinguished by a branchiostegal carina that extends along two thirds of the carapace, this being the only long, sharp carina on the lateral part of the carapace. It is also characterized by having the rostrum scarcely longer than half the length of the carapace, the small size of the upper rostral and postrostral teeth, the proportionally wide blade of the scaphocerite, and by being larger in size than any other *Heterocarpus* species.

Key words: Crustacea, Decapoda, Caridea, Pandalidae, *Heterocarpus*, deep water, Pacific Ocean, Solomon Islands, new species.

Introduction

During the SALOMON 2 cruise of the IRD research vessel *Alis* off the Solomon Islands, organized jointly by the IRD (Institut de Recherche pour le Développement, ex ORSTOM) and the Muséum national d'Histoire naturelle, Paris (MNHN), a single specimen of *Heterocarpus* A. Milne Edwards, 1881, was caught between 814 and 980 meters deep. The specimen clearly belongs to a new species, based on several unique characters.

Carapace length was measured from the posterior margin of the orbit to the mid-dorsal posterior edge of the carapace, total length from the tip of the rostrum to the apex of the telson.