



Two new deep-sea squat lobsters of the genus *Munidopsis* Whiteaves, 1874 (Crustacea: Decapoda: Munidopsidae) from Taiwan

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Abstract

Two new deep-sea munidopsids, *Munidopsis aurantia* **sp. nov.** and *M. laevisquama* **sp. nov.**, are described from Taiwan. *Munidopsis aurantia* **sp. nov.** closely resembles *M. serricornis* (Lovén, 1852), but differs in lacking an antennal spine, cheliped with fingers longer than palm and merus bearing distal spines but without a row of dorsal spines. *Munidopsis laevisquama* **sp. nov.** differs from other congeners by its carapace being densely covered with squamae but without dorsal spines, eyes that are subglobular and lacking spines or papillae, the basal antennal segment bearing a cylindrical process, and the cheliped and walking legs all lacking distal spines. Altogether 36 species of *Munidopsis* are now known from the deep waters off Taiwan.

Key words: Munidopsidae, *Munidopsis*, new species, Taiwan

Introduction

The deep-water munidopsid genus *Munidopsis* Whiteaves, 1874 is one of the most speciose genera in the family Galatheoidea (Baba 2005; Baba *et al.* 2008; Ahyong *et al.* 2010). During extensive deep-sea surveys in Taiwanese waters (including Dongsha Island or Pratas in the South China Sea which is under the jurisdiction of Taiwan) in the past decade, abundant material of *Munidopsis* has been collected. A comprehensive study on the material collected by the Taiwan deep-sea cruises revealed 34 *Munidopsis* species and made Taiwan one of the ‘hotspots’ of the genus around the world (Osawa *et al.* 2008; Macpherson 2007; Baba *et al.* 2009). Nevertheless, two more undescribed species were present in the recently collected *Munidopsis* material and deposited at the National Taiwan Ocean University (NTOU). The present work reports this finding and the two new species are described herein. Altogether, 36 species of *Munidopsis* are now recorded from Taiwan, further indicating a rich diversity of squat lobsters from around the island.

The measurements, in millimeters (mm), indicate postorbital carapace length (cl); the distance between the orbital margin and posterior margin of the carapace along the midline. Lengths of the segments of the chelipeds are measured along the mesial margins, and of pereopods 2–4 (ambulatory legs) along the dorsal margins. The abbreviations “CP” and “PCP” refer to the French beam trawl with the spans of 4.2 and 2.5 m, respectively.

Taxonomy

Munidopsidae Ortmann, 1898

Munidopsis Whiteaves, 1874