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A new species of false spider crab of the genus *Elamena* H. Milne Edwards, 1837 (Crustacea: Decapoda: Brachyura: Hymenosomatidae), from Davao Gulf, Philippines

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Abstract

A new species of hymenosomatid crab of the genus *Elamena* H. Milne Edwards, 1837, is described from the island of Samal, in the Davao Gulf, Mindanao, southern Philippines. *Elamena samalensis* sp. nov. belongs to the *Elamena truncata* species-group and is most similar to *E. simplidenta* Ng & Chuang, 1996, in the general form of the carapace and in the presence of only one subdistal tooth on the ambulatory dactyli. It can be distinguished from this species, however, by its more projecting rostrum, relatively longer and more slender ambulatory legs, and by the pointed apex of the female pleotelson.

Key words: Brachyura, Hymenosomatidae, *Elamena*, *Elamena samalensis*, Samal Island, Davao Gulf, Mindanao, Philippines

Introduction

Ten species, distributed among five genera, of false spider crab (Crustacea: Hymenosomatidae) are presently known from the Philippines (see Ng & Chuang 1996; Naruse *et al.* 2008; Husana *et al.* 2011): *Amarinus wolterecki* (Balss, 1934) [Mindanao: Lake Mainit], *A. pumilus* Ng & Chuang, 1996 [southeastern Luzon: Bicol River, Camarines Norte], *A. abatan* Naruse, Mendoza & Ng, 2008 [Bohol: Abatan River], *Crustaenia palawanensis* (Serène, 1971) [Palawan: Quezon]; *Elamena castanea* Naruse, Mendoza & Ng 2008 [Bohol: Panglao Is.], *E. panglao* Naruse, Mendoza & Ng, 2008 [Bohol: Panglao Is.]; *Elamenopsis lineata* A. Milne-Edwards, 1873 [southern Luzon: Dagat-dagatan, Navotas]; *Neorhynchoplax bai* Naruse, Mendoza & Ng, 2008 [Bohol: Tagbilaran-Dauis Channel], *N. falcifera* Naruse, Mendoza & Ng, 2008 [Bohol: Tagbilaran-Dauis Channel], and *Samarplax principe* Husana, Tan & Kase, 2011 [Samar: Principe Cave, Guiuan]. Described herein as a new species of *Elamena* H. Milne Edwards, 1837, is the eleventh species. The new species was collected from the intertidal zone on Samal Island situated in the Davao Gulf of the island of Mindanao.

The terminology used here follows that of Lucas (1980) and Ng & Chuang (1996) with the following abbreviations: G1 for the male first pleopods and P2 to P5 for pereopods 2 to 5 (first to fourth ambulatory legs), respectively. Measurements provided are for the carapace width and the carapace length, in millimeters. Material examined is deposited in the Crustacean Reference Collection, National Museum of the Philippines, Manila (NMCR) and the Zoological Reference Collection, Raffles Museum of Biodiversity Research, National University of Singapore (ZRC).