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## New occurrences of lithodid crabs (Crustacea: Decapoda: Lithodidae) from the coasts of Africa, with the description of a new species of *Paralomis* White, 1856

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### Abstract

The Collection of Decapod and Stomatopod Crustaceans from the Cádiz Oceanographic Centre (CCDE-IEOCD) comprises a number of lithodid crabs from Spanish surveys carried out in African waters. The revision of this material allowed the confirmation of new records of *Lithodes ferox* Filhol, 1885 in Guinea–Bissau and Mauritania, *Lithodes mamillifer* Macpherson, 1988 in Mozambique, *Neolithodes asperrimus* Barnard, 1947, *Neolithodes grimaldii* (A. Milne Edwards & Bouvier, 1894) and *Paralomis erinacea* Macpherson, 1988 in Mauritania, *Paralomis africana* Macpherson, 1982 in Namibia and *Paralomis cristulata* Macpherson, 1988 in Guinea–Bissau. Some of these records contribute to extent the geographical and/or bathymetrical range of the species. One new species of the genus *Paralomis* from Namibia is described and illustrated. This species shows close affinity with its congener *Paralomis pectinata* Macpherson, 1988, from Venezuela. The morphological differences between the two species are included.

**Key words:** king crab, *Lithodes*, *Neolithodes*, *Paralomis macphersoni* **sp. nov.**, Central and Southeast Atlantic and South-west Indian Ocean

### Resumen

La Colección de Crustáceos Decápodos y Estomatópodos del Centro Oceanográfico de Cádiz (CCDE-IEOCD) comprende una serie de cangrejos litódidos procedentes de campañas españolas llevadas a cabo en aguas de África. La revisión de este material ha permitido la confirmación de nuevas citas de *Lithodes ferox* Filhol, 1885 en Guinea–Bissau y Mauritania, *Lithodes mamillifer* Macpherson, 1988 en Mozambique, *Neolithodes asperrimus* Barnard, 1947, *Neolithodes grimaldii* (A. Milne Edwards & Bouvier, 1894) y *Paralomis erinacea* Macpherson, 1988 en Mauritania, *Paralomis africana* Macpherson, 1982 en Namibia y *Paralomis cristulata* Macpherson, 1988 en Guinea–Bissau. Algunas de estas citas extienden el rango geográfico y/o batimétrico de las especies. Se describe e ilustra una nueva especie del género *Paralomis* de Namibia. Esta especie es muy próxima a su congénere *Paralomis pectinata* Macpherson, 1988, de Venezuela. Se incluyen las diferencias morfológicas entre las dos especies.

### Introduction

The family Lithodidae Samouelle, 1819 has received some attention in the last years, and some interesting revisions and compilations have been published providing a complete overview of the present knowledge (e.g. Zaklan 2002, Ahyong & Dawson 2006, Hall & Thatje 2009, Ahyong 2010, Ahyong *et al.* 2010, McLaughlin *et al.* 2010). The family contains some representatives along the African coast, mostly belonging to the genus *Neolithodes* A. Milne Edwards & Bouvier, 1894, *Lithodes* Latreille, 1806 and *Paralomis* White, 1856. The genus *Neolithodes* contains three species in the area: *N. grimaldii* A. Milne Edwards & Bouvier, 1894, from the east coast of the United States and Canada, Greenland, Iceland to the northwestern African coast, *N. asperrimus* Barnard, 1947, off western Africa, from the Ivory Coast to the Cape Peninsula, and *N. capensis* Stebbing, 1905 from southern Africa (Macpherson 1988a). A fourth species cited by Macpherson (1988b) in Madagascar as *N. aff. asperrimus* Barnard, 1947, is probably a new species (see Alcock 1901, Alcock & MacGilchrist 1905 and Dawson