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A new species of *Neoliomera* Odhner, 1925, from the western Pacific, and the first record of *N. demani* Forest & Guinot, 1961, from Taiwan (Crustacea: Decapoda: Brachyura: Xanthidae)

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Abstract

A new species of a strikingly coloured xanthid crab of the genus *Neoliomera* Odhner, 1925, is described from coral reefs in Guam, Taiwan, and the Hawaiian Islands. The new species is allied to *N. pubescens* (H. Milne Edwards, 1834), and *N. demani* Forest & Guinot, 1961, but differs in the form of the carapace armature, frontal margin, structure of the chela, proportions of the ambulatory merus and the form of the male first gonopod. *Neoliomera demani* is also recorded from Taiwan for the first time and aspects of its taxonomy are discussed.

Key words: Crustacea, Brachyura, Xanthidae, *Neoliomera*, taxonomy, new species, *Neoliomera demani*, new record, Taiwan, Guam, Hawaiian Islands

Introduction

The Indo-West Pacific xanthid genus *Neoliomera* Odhner, 1925, currently contains 17 species: *N. cerasinus* Ng, 2002, *N. demani* Forest & Guinot, 1961, *N. insularis* (Adams & White, 1849), *N. intermedia* Odhner, 1925, *N. lippa* (Nobili, 1905), *N. moana* Poupin & Starmer, 2013, *N. nobilii* Odhner, 1925, *N. ovata* Tweedie, 1950, *N. praetexta* (Rathbun, 1906), *N. pubescens* (H. Milne Edwards, 1834) (type species), *N. richtersi* (De Man, 1889), *N. richteroides* Sakai, 1969, *N. sabaia* (Nobili, 1905), *N. striata* Buitendijk, 1941, *N. sunaica* (De Man, 1888), *N. themisto* (De Man, 1889), and *N. variolosa* (A. Milne-Edwards, 1873) (Ng 2002; Ng *et al.* 2008; Fujita *et al.* 2013). A recent molecular study showed that *Neoliomera* was a separate lineage in the Xanthidae that is supported by a number of male sterno-abdominal and ambulatory-leg characters (Lai *et al.* 2012: 435).

The authors recently obtained specimens of two species allied to *N. pubescens* from Taiwan and Guam. One proved to be *N. demani*, and represents a new record for Taiwan. The other species is allied to *N. pubescens* but can be distinguished by a number of carapace and gonopod differences, and is here regarded as new. The taxonomy of these two taxa is herein revised.

The abbreviations G1 and G2 are used for the male first and second gonopods, respectively. Measurements provided, in millimeters, are of the carapace width and length, respectively. Specimens are deposited in the National Taiwan Ocean University (NTOU), Keelung, Taiwan; Zoological Reference Collection (ZRC), Lee Kong Chian Natural History Museum (= Raffles Museum of Biodiversity Research), National University of Singapore; and Muséum national d'Histoire naturelle (MNHN), Paris.

form of the chela and ambulatory legs), they agree better with *N. fragraea* n. sp. It therefore seems likely that Sakai's (1976) material contained two species. Hoover's (2006: colour photograph) of "*N. pubescens*" from Hawai'i is almost certainly *N. demani* as his figure shows the characteristic black markings on the chela. We also have one large male specimen of *N. demani* from the aquarium trade (ZRC 2009.1174) that was supposedly collected from Hawai'i. In any case, the presence of this species there is not surprising considering its wide range in the Pacific.

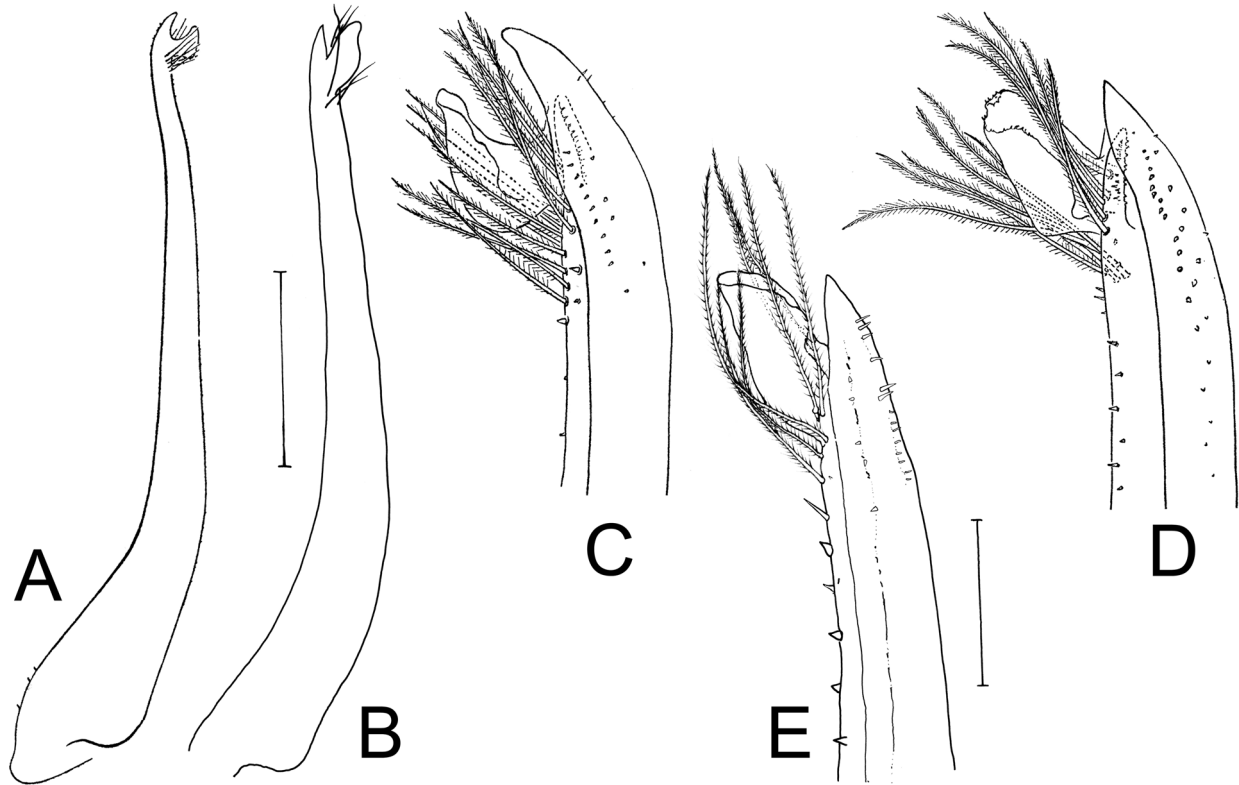


FIGURE 7. A, C, *Neoliomera pubescens* (H. Milne Edwards, 1873), lectotype male (30.5 × 17.5 mm) (MNHN), Mauritius; D, *Neoliomera demani* Forest & Guinot, 1961, paratype male (23.0 × 13.0 mm) (MNHN), Tahiti; B, E, *Neoliomera fragraea* n. sp., holotype male (18.3 × 10.1 mm) (ZRC 2014.0206), Guam. A, B, left G1; C–E, distal parts of left G1s. A, C, after Forest & Guinot (1961: fig. 75); D, after Forest & Guinot (1961: fig. 76).

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