



Crabs of the families Palicidae and Crossotonotidae (Crustacea, Decapoda, Brachyura, Palicoidea) from the Ogasawara Islands, Japan, with the description of a new species

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Abstract

Four species of palicoid crabs, *Neopalicus jukesii* (White, 1847) and *Rectopalicus ampullatus* Castro, 2000 of the family Palicidae, and *Crossotonotus spinipes* (De Man, 1888) and a new species of *Pleurophricus* A. Milne-Edwards, 1873 of the family Crossotonotidae, are recorded from the Ogasawara Islands, Japan. Diagnostics for the new species are the protruded bilobed front, six subacute lobate teeth at each lateral margin of the carapace, six rounded lobes at the posterior margin of the carapace, a crested armature of the cheliped carpus, and the strongly depressed ambulatory legs, which readily distinguish it from its two congeners, *P. cristatipes* A. Milne-Edwards, 1873 known by two males from Australia and the Kai Islands in Indonesia, and *P. longirostris* (Moosa & Serène, 1981) known by a female from the Sunda Strait, Indonesia.

Key words: *Neopalicus*, *Rectopalicus*, *Crossotonotus*, *Pleurophricus*, new species, Palicidae, Crossotonotidae, Ogasawara Islands, Japan

Introduction

During his 10 years stay in Chichi-jima Island, the Ogasawara Islands, as a researcher of the Ogasawara Marine Center, the second author assembled a large number of specimens of intertidal and subtidal fishes and invertebrates. A part of the crab collections is kept in the National Museum of Nature and Science, Tokyo for further taxonomic study. Recently we noticed that there are some taxonomically interesting species of the families Palicidae and Crossotonotidae in the collections. The purpose of this paper is to record two known, but unfamiliar species of the Palicidae, and a known and a new species of the Crossotonotidae from the Ogasawara Islands.

The family Palicidae, formerly including two subfamilies (Moosa & Serène 1981; Castro 2000; Ng *et al.* 2008), is now regarded as consisting of two families, Palicidae Bouvier, 1898, and Crossotonotidae Moosa & Serène, 1981, following Guinot *et al.* (2013) who showed that the two subfamilies should be recognized as the full families diagnosed by their respective sternum, abdomens, and male pleopod structure.

The generic positions of the 11 known and one species of both families from Japanese waters (Yokoya, 1933; Miyake, 1936; Sakai, 1939, 1963, 1965, 1974, 1976; Castro, 2000; Marumura & Takeda, 2009, 2012) are updated as follows. The four species from the Ogasawara Islands dealt herein are indicated by boldface.

Family PALICIDAE Bouvier, 1898

Genus *Neopalicus* Moosa & Serène, 1981

N. jukesii (White, 1847)

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