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Aletheiana tenella, a new genus and new species of freshwater hymenosomatid crab (Crustacea: Decapoda: Brachyura) from Central Sulawesi, Indonesia

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Abstract

A new genus and new species of free-living hymenosomatid crab, *Aletheiana tenella*, is described from Central Sulawesi, Indonesia. The two known Sulawesi hymenosomatid species, *Cancrocaeca xenomorpha* Ng, 1991, and *Sulaplax ensifer* Naruse, Ng & Guinot, 2008, are both from cave habitats. *Aletheiana* **gen. nov.** is most similar to *Neorhynchoplax* Sakai, 1938 (from freshwater and intertidal habitats in the Indo-West Pacific), and *Sulaplax*, but can be distinguished by its front possessing only one subventral rostral lobe, the base of the antenna is positioned between the base of the ocular peduncle and antennular fossa, the posterior margin of the epistome has two low, rounded median lobes, the merus of the third maxilliped is elongated, the ambulatory dactylus has a prominent subdistal spine, the cutting edges of the chela are armed with distinct teeth proximally, and the male abdomen is slender and elongate with the telson linguiform.

Key words: Hymenosomatidae, *Aletheiana tenella*, new genus, new species, taxonomy, Sulawesi

Introduction

The freshwater crabs of Sulawesi have been well reported over the years, with many endemic species living in the various ancient lake systems of Poso and Malili (Matanno, Towuti, Mahalona, Wawantoa and Masapi) as well as the nearby areas (see Schenkel 1902; Chia & Ng 2006; Schubart & Ng 2008). All, however, are members of the Gecarcinucidae Rathbun, 1904. No species of Hymenosomatidae have been reported from or near these lakes as yet.

Two freshwater species of hymenosomatids have previously been reported from Sulawesi – *Cancrocaeca xenomorpha* Ng, 1991, and *Sulaplax ensifer* Naruse, Ng & Guinot, 2008, both from cave systems in the west and south of the island, respectively (Ng 1991; Deharveng *et al.* 2002; Naruse *et al.* 2008). A new genus and new species of free-living hymenosomatid is here reported from central Sulawesi, in an area between Lake Poso and the Malili Lakes system. The present paper describes the new taxa, and compares them with allied genera and species. Measurements provided (in millimetres, including spines) are of the carapace width and length, respectively. The terminology used follows that used by Lucas (1980), Ng & Chuang (1996), Guinot & Richer de Forges (1997) and Guinot (2011a). The following abbreviations are used: G1 = male first pleopod; G2 = male second pleopod; P2–P5 = pereiopods 2–5 (= ambulatory legs 1–4), respectively. Specimens are deposited in the Museum Zoologicum Bogoriense (MZB), Cibinong, Bogor, Indonesia; Muséum national d'Histoire naturelle, Paris (MNHN); and the Zoological Reference Collection (ZRC) of the Lee Kong Chian Natural History Museum (ex Raffles Museum of Biodiversity Research), National University of Singapore.

Taxonomy

Family Hymenosomatidae Macleay, 1838

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