FIRST SPECIES OF PARAGALENE KOSSMANN, 1878 (DECAPODA, BRACHYURA, PROGERYONIDAE) FROM THE WESTERN ATLANTIC

BY

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ABSTRACT

A new species of deep-water crab, Paragalene danieleae (Progeryonidae), from the western Atlantic is described and illustrated. The new species can be easily separated from its eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean counterpart, \textit{P. longicrura} (Nardo, 1868), by a suite of carapace and appendage characters.

INTRODUCTION

For more than thirteen decades \textit{Paragalene longicrura} (Nardo, 1868) has been the only valid species assigned to the genus \textit{Paragalene} Kossmann, 1878. \textit{Paragalene longicrura} is rare and has been known only from a small number of localities in the Mediterranean Sea and two localities in the eastern Atlantic (see d’Udekem d’Acoz, 1999). Its taxonomic position has long been controversial. The species was originally described in the genus \textit{Eriphia} Latreille, 1817, and accordingly attributed to the Xanthidae (Nardo, 1868). It was later included in the Geryonidae (e.g., Guinot, 1969: 692, 696; 1971: 335-343).

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1077-1078; Türkay, 1976a, b), until Manning & Holthuis (1989) restricted the Geryonidae to *Geryon* Krøyer, 1897, *Chaceon* Manning & Holthuis, 1989, and *Zariquieyon* Manning & Holthuis, 1989. Manning & Holthuis (1989: 51) also suggested that *Paragalene* could be included in a family of its own, along with *Progeryon* Bouvier, 1922. Instead of dealing with the uncertain taxonomic position of *Paragalene* as well as *Progeryon*, Števčič (2005: 64) erected two intermediate categories, the redundant monotypic tribes *Paragalenini* Števčič, 2005, and *Progeryonini* Števčič, 2005, both included in the Geryoninae (Geryonidae). Karasawa & Schweitzer (2006) attributed full family status to the *Progeryonini* (as *Progeryonidae*), to which *Paragalene* was eventually transferred (Ng & Manuel-Santos, 2007; Ng et al., 2008).

Trapping operations recently conducted between 100 and 1000 m depth off the coast of Guadeloupe, West Indies, revealed a wealth of diversity of decapod crustaceans (Poupin, 1994; Tavares, 1994; Tavares & Guinot, 1996), and among them a western Atlantic counterpart of *P. longicrura*, herein described as new, *Paragalene danieleae* n. sp.

The following abbreviations are used: CBR (Colleccions Biològiques de Referència, Institut de Ciències del Mar, Barcelona); MZUSP (Museu de Zoologia, Universidade de São Paulo); cl, carapace length; cw, carapace width; P1, cheliped; P2-P5, pereiopods 2 to 5.

**SYSTEMATIC ACCOUNT**

**Family PROGERYONIDAE Števčič, 2005**

**Paragalene** Kossmann, 1878

*Paragalene* Kossmann, 1878: 253.

Type species. — *Paragalene neapolitana* Kossmann, 1878, by monotypy [= *Eriphia longicrura* Nardo, 1868]. Gender feminine.

Species included. — *Paragalene longicrura* (Nardo, 1868), eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean Sea (d’Udekem d’Acoz, 1999: 241, and references therein); *Paragalene danieleae* n. sp., western Atlantic.

**Paragalene danieleae** n. sp. (figs. 1, 3A, C)

Type material. — Holotype: female (cl 37 mm, cw 48 mm) (MZUSP 19938), Caribbean Sea, West Indies, Guadeloupe, west coast of Basse Terre, Mission ORSTOM-IRPM-SMCB, stn A210, 16°11.80’N 61°48.72’W, G. Leblond and J. Poupin leg., April 1993, 250 m.