A NEW SPECIES OF *NEOPILUMNOPLAX* SERÈNE IN GUINOT, 1969 (DECAPODA, BRACHYURA, MATHILDELLIDAE) FROM THE SOUTHWESTERN ATLANTIC

BY

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ABSTRACT

*Neopilumnoplax lipkeholthuisi* sp. nov. is described from the southwestern Atlantic. The new species can be easily separated from its congeners by a suite of carapace and appendage characters.

RÉSUMÉ

*Neopilumnoplax lipkeholthuisi* sp. nov. est décrite de l’Atlantique sud-occidental. La nouvelle espèce se sépare aisement de ses congénères par divers caractères de la carapace et des appendices.

INTRODUCTION

Among the material collected during the cruises of the French vessels “CALYPSO” (Forest, 1966) and “PROF. W. BESNARD” from the Oceanographic Institute of the University of São Paulo in the southwestern Atlantic in 1961-1962 and 1968, respectively, were specimens of *Neopilumnoplax* Serène in Guinot, 1969, that resembled *Neopilumnoplax americana* (Rathbun, 1898). Comparison of these specimens with material of all known species of *Neopilumnoplax* (except *N. nieli* Ahyong, 2008, from New Zealand), showed that the southwestern Atlantic specimens belong to an undescribed species. That new species is named herein *Neopilumnoplax lipkeholthuisi* sp. nov.

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Abbreviations used include: MNHN (Muséum national d’Histoire naturelle, Paris); MZUSP (Museum of Zoology of the University of São Paulo); USNM (National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C.); carapace length (cl), taken from the front to the posterior margin of the carapace; carapace width (cw), taken at the level of the fourth anterolateral tooth of the carapace; P1 cheliped; P2-P5, pereiopods 2 to 5.

SYSTEMATIC ACCOUNT

Family MATHILDELLIDAE Karasawa & Kato, 2003

*Neopilumnoplax* Serène, in Guinot, 1969


Species included. — *Neopilumnoplax americana* (Rathbun, 1898); *Neopilumnoplax gervaini* Tavares & Guinot, 1996; *Neopilumnoplax heterochir* (Studer, 1883); *Neopilumnoplax lipkeholthuisi* sp. nov.; *Neopilumnoplax nieli* Ahyong, 2008; and *Neopilumnoplax sinclairi* (Alcock & Anderson, 1899).

*Neopilumnoplax lipkeholthuisi* sp. nov.

(fig. 1A-C)


Non type material. — 1 damaged juvenile (MZUSP 3675), Brazil, Rio Grande do Sul, GEDIP, stn 458, 33°29′S 50°44′W, 207 m, 9 December 1968.

Comparative material. — *Neopilumnoplax americana* (Rathbun, 1898), holotype: male (cl 7.5 mm, cw 9.6 mm) (USNM 19652), 1 male, 2 females paratypes (USNM 19653), “ALBATROSS”, stn 2415, 30°44′N 79°26′W, 805 m, off Georgia, 1 April 1885; 1 female (USNM 68820), Biological Expedition to the Keys and West Indies, stn 62; 1 male (MZUSP 16943), Brazil, Canopus Bank, 120 miles off Fortaleza, coll. J. Coltro, November 2005; 1 male (MNHN-B 6815), Biological Expedition to the Keys and West Indies, stn 52, Key West, Florida, off American Shoal, 192-201 m; 1 male (MNHN-B 6816), “FISH HAWK”, stn 7301, 24°18′37″N 81°36′50″W, Gulf Stream, off Key West, Florida, 232 m, 4 March 1902. *Neopilumnoplax gervaini* Tavares & Guinot, 1996, 1 male (MNHN-B 24881), Caribbean Sea, West Indies, Guadeloupe, west coast of Basse Terre, Mission ORSTOM-IRPM-SMCB, “POLKA”, stn C32, 16°21′34″N 61°49′14″W, 350 m, April 1993. *Neopilumnoplax heterochir* (Studer, 1883), 1 male (cl 12.6 mm, cw 17.9 mm) (MNHN-B 6818) (ex South African Museum), locality unknown. *Neopilumnoplax sinclairi* (Alcock & Anderson, 1899), 1 female.